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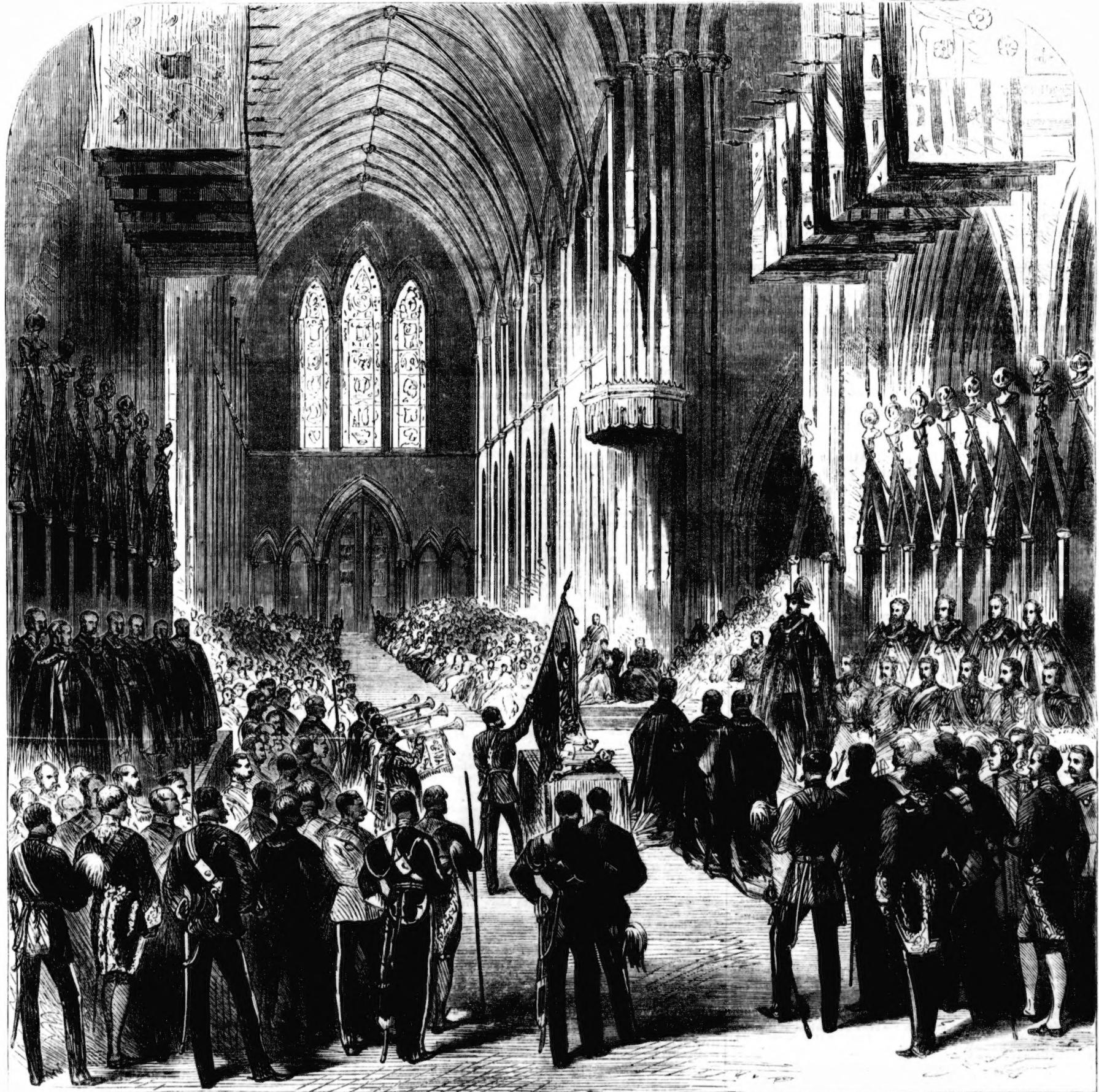
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THE ABYSSINIAN EXPEDITION.

The Abyssinian campaign has been brought to an end as brilliant as it was unexpected. Whatever confidence might be placed in Sir Robert Napier and his gallant little army, it was impossible not to have grave misgivings as to whether the true object of the expedition—the rescue of the captives—could really be effected. We have always thought the character of Theodore a highly interesting subject of study. Now he appears a fanatic, now a hypocrite; but it cannot,

after all, be said that in the course of his dealings with the English Government he showed more duplicity than was exhibited by the English Government in its dealings with him. When the semi-barbarous Monarch found Lord Russell complimenting him, and expressing a desire to cultivate closer relations with him, in a despatch addressed to him personally, and at the same time sending to the English Consul-General at Alexandria a despatch in which it was set forth that the less England had to do

with Abyssinia the better, it was natural that he should look upon the proceedings of our Government with mistrust. But for the insertion in the *London Gazette* of the unfortunate despatch celebrating, for the benefit of the English public, that policy of non-intervention which had not been pursued in connection with Abyssinian affairs, it is certain that Theodore would have released the prisoners long ago. In fact, several of them were liberated, when the King, having received his *London Gazette* and read the instructions



INSTALLATION OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AS A KNIGHT OF ST. PATRICK, AT DUBLIN.—SEE PAGE 280.

sent to Alexandria, threw them once more into captivity. An unanswered letter was the beginning of our difficulties in Abyssinia; and the publication of an imprudent letter which need never have been written, and which it was really culpable to print, made them impossible to solve—in fact, got them into a knot which it was necessary to cut with the sword.

But though the liberation of the prisoners might at one time have been obtained by peaceful means, no one can say that when at last the expedition was decided upon the time had not arrived for military measures, and military measures only, to be employed. The objection made in some quarters against the expedition were based on the supposed impossibility of sending a large force to Magdala, on the difficulties presented by the Abyssinian country, on the dangerous nature of the Abyssinian climate, and on the probability, which certainly existed, that if an English army did succeed in getting to Magdala and in taking the fortress, they would not find the prisoners alive. If, in regard to Theodore's complex character, one thing was more certain than another, it seemed to be that he was capricious, and subject to uncontrollable fits of passion; and most persons who had studied the question must have come to the conclusion that if he found himself hard pressed he would kill the captives rather than allow them to fall, living, into the hands of his enemies.

However, whether the Government was better informed in regard to Abyssinian matters than it was generally supposed to be, or not, it has turned out that the dangers and difficulties so generally anticipated did not, in fact, exist. The roads, or rather the route from the coast to Magdala (for no road, as we use the word in England, seems to have existed) were, no doubt, full of obstacles. But the climate proved such that it has had a salutary effect upon the whole army; in fact, now that it has been fairly tried, the climate of Abyssinia has proved, during a large portion of the year at least, to be about the healthiest in the world. No great trouble has been experienced in obtaining provisions, and science has enabled the army to keep itself supplied with water all along its progress. All sorts of dreadful insects, with frightful entomological names, full of terror for the uninitiated, were said to infest the wells. Then the grass was pleasant to the eye but mortal to the taste, so that, if there was but little chance for the men, there was no chance whatever for the horses. In short, if the accounts of numerous travellers possessed any truth, it was certain that the cavalry would soon be dismounted, and highly probable that neither cavalry nor infantry would be fit for service of any kind. Worse troubles still, or at least troubles more inevitable, were in store for the artillery. The light, portable guns were to break the mules' backs. The heavy ones would stick in the mud, or the manner in which it was proposed to sling them would render it impossible for them to be carried along the narrow paths, hedged on each side by jungle.

Altogether, there was probably never an expedition in this world about which so much evil was said beforehand—for which, whatever might be the final result, so many intermediate disasters were confidently predicted. Even when the first brigade was within thirty miles of Magdala, we were assured, on the authority of some German traveller, that to take the place was out of the question; it would stand a three-months' siege. Indeed, the fortress, we were told, stood on an immense corn-growing plateau, thanks to which, the garrison could never be starved out; while, from its strong natural position, it was quite inaccessible to storming parties. As for artillery, Magdala could not be touched by it. In fact, it was Sebastopol, Gibraltar, Luxemburg (before the demolition), all rolled into one; with this additional disadvantage for its besiegers, that, if they waited long enough, they were sure to be watered, deluged, utterly washed and melted away by the heavy rains. Nothing, however, has melted away, except the absurd tales of Abyssinian travellers. They had made many mistakes, but their greatest error of all consisted in their having reckoned without Sir Robert Napier. If he had possessed less enterprise as a soldier, less knowledge and skill as an engineer, he might have been arrested by the difficulties of the ground. If he had thought of investing Magdala, and waiting before it until the rainy season came on, he might, of course, have been washed away by the season. But, as if to give the most complete contradiction to the stories told as to the impregnability, and, indeed, inaccessibility, of the place, he bombarded it in regular form and took it by storm, the infantry making their way to the stronghold by one of the very paths which had been pronounced impracticable.

Sir Robert Napier has covered himself, and all who served under him, with honour. Everyone knew before that English Generals were enterprising and English troops brave; but the misfortunes of English armies at the beginning of a war have become almost proverbial; and what is particularly surprising in Sir Robert Napier's achievement, is that he finished his little war almost before it seemed to have begun.

LAUNCH OF IRONCLADS.—Two iron-clad frigates, of considerable power and of the most approved modes of construction, were launched last Saturday upon the waters of the Thames. One of these, the *Repose*, constructed by Mr. Reed for the British Navy, is to carry twelve guns of large calibre; and a very distinguished company, including Prince Arthur, assembled to witness the ceremony of christening. It is presumed that his Royal Highness had not been made acquainted with the dastardly Fenian attempt on his Royal brother's life at Port Jackson, although the news had arrived at the dockyard and was the subject of the indignant conversation of those assembled. The other launch was that of the *König Wilhelm* at the Thames Iron Ship-building Company's Works at Blackwall, the largest and strongest ironclad afloat. She was originally the *Fatih*, laid down for the Turkish Government and subsequently purchased by Prussia for the North German navy. Her armour is 8 in. thick, and she carries twenty-seven Krupp's steel 500-pounders. Prince Adalbert, High Admiral of Prussia, was present at the ceremony.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Paris journals speak in terms of high praise of the victory achieved by the English at Magdala. Some writers, however, seem to find it difficult to believe that we mean to retire from Abyssinia without securing what they call "material advantages," and one gentleman believes that what we aim at is to obtain control over the Suez Canal.

SPAIN.

In consequence of the death of Marshal Narvaez, the Spanish Ministry resigned, and the Queen charged Senor Gonzales Bravo with the formation of a new Cabinet, which task he has accomplished. The new Cabinet is composed as follows:—Senor Gonzales Bravo, President of the Council and Minister of the Interior; Senor Belda, Minister of Marine; Senor Ozorio, Minister of Finances; Senor Mayalde, Minister of War; Senor Catalina, Minister of Public Works; Senor Marfori, Minister of the Colonies; Marquin Roncalli, Minister of Justice and *ad interim* Minister for Foreign Affairs. General Cheste has been appointed Captain-General of Madrid.

The party now uppermost in Madrid is decidedly reactionary. Gonzales Bravo has announced in the Cortes that he and his colleagues are resolved to follow the same line of policy as Marshal Narvaez did, and that line of policy is but too well known. M. Gonzales Bravo condescends to add that "for all important measures he will seek the support of the Chambers, from which we might infer that for those measures which he may deem unimportant he will not give the representatives any trouble at all." He also says that the "shade of Narvaez" will be present at the Council of Ministers.

HOLLAND.

A Ministerial crisis has occurred at the Hague. In consequence of the Second Chamber having rejected, by a majority of thirty-seven against thirty-five votes, the estimates of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Government withdrew the remaining estimates, and have tendered their resignation to the King.

ITALY.

Italy has been making holiday in consequence of the late Royal marriage, and the news from that country is made up almost entirely of accounts of the fêtes.

PRUSSIA.

The German Customs Parliament was opened in Berlin, on Monday, by the King in person. In his speech his Majesty first called upon the delegates to carry their minds back forty years to the history of the Customs Union. The need of the German people for freedom of commercial intercourse among themselves had gradually, by the force of the national idea expressing that want, extended the Zollverein from a small beginning over the major portion of Germany, thereby creating unity of interests, victoriously surmounting heavy trials, and taking up a satisfactory position in the commerce of the world. Since the commencement of the reorganisation that had been undertaken the existing arrangement had yet appeared insufficient for the rapid development of commerce in all directions. The well-justified demand of the people for an effective share in the legislation upon the politico-economical changes of the country required the formation of a Representative Assembly for the Zollverein. The deliberations would range over nearly all the subjects alluded to in the treaty of July 8, 1867, the extension of which to Mecklenburg and Lübeck was near at hand. The first subject to come under consideration would be the settlement of the relations of commercial intercourse with an adjacent country, closely connected with Germany by similarity of race and a variety of material interests. After enumerating the various bills to be submitted to the Parliament, including a uniform tobacco duty bill and a treaty of commerce and navigation with Spain, his Majesty concluded by saying:—"The friendly relations which the German Governments maintain with all Powers, the national prosperity whose care unites here the representatives of the German races, together with the blessings of peace, for the protection of which the German States have entered into alliance, will remain secure, and with God's help we shall at all times be able to reckon upon the united power of the German people."

In consequence of the recent vote of the North German Parliament in favour of the Opposition's amendment to the Federal Debt Bill, and the subsequent withdrawal of that bill by the Government, orders have been issued to stop all further outlay for the extension of the federal navy and the defence of the coasts, in so far as such outlay was being made on the basis of the loan sanctioned last year, and which can now no longer be raised.

It is understood that the presentation of the Budget of the North German Confederation to the Parliament will be delayed on account of the entire change which has now been rendered necessary in the navy estimates.

AUSTRIA.

In the Lower House of the Austrian Reichsrath, on Tuesday, the President communicated to the House the Emperor's answer to the deputation charged to congratulate his Majesty on the recent happy event in the Imperial family. His Majesty said, "I am convinced of the feelings of fidelity and sympathy constantly testified by the Lower House to the Imperial family. Let us advance together, with rapid and decisive steps, upon the course we have commenced, in order that, if possible, we may very soon arrive at prosperous results." The House received the communication with cheers.

The Emperor has addressed an autograph letter to the Minister of War for the Empire, instructing him to come to an understanding with the President of the Hungarian Ministry, with the view of submitting proposals for making provision for those officers on the general pension list who had forfeited their right to a pension in consequence of implication in the events of 1848-9.

TURKEY.

A letter from Niash, a town in the Servo-Bulgarian frontier, says:—"The Porte is assembling in all haste the nizams and redifs, and sending them forward to the Servian frontier. The heights that command Niash are being armed with cannon. The troops are concentrating in the camp near Viniki, not far from Kamienetz. Four powder-waggons have arrived here. The redifs say that more troops are coming from Sophia. It is difficult to say what is the object of all this, for no danger threatens the Porte on the part of Servia."

THE UNITED STATES.

The impeachment trial still proceeds, the defendant labouring to show that Mr. Johnson had no illegal object in view in removing Mr. Stanton from the War Office, but merely wished to get the constitutionality of the Tenure of Office Act tested. The managers throw every possible obstacle in the way of the defence, objecting to all evidence that is likely to serve the cause of the President. In this they are occasionally supported by the Senate, which ruled out as inadmissible, by 29 to 20 votes, the testimony of Secretary Welles and others offered by the defence to show that the Cabinet had declared the Tenure of Office Bill unconstitutional, and advised the President to veto it.

President Johnson has sent the nomination of General Schofield as Secretary of War to the Senate for approval. The Republicans of Pennsylvania having requested Senator Cameron to urge the transfer of Mr. Stanton to the Treasury Department in case of the accession of Mr. Wade to the Presidency, Mr. Stanton wrote to Mr. Cameron stating that he desires to retire from the public service and to hold the War Office only until the appointment of his successor shall be confirmed.

It is reported that a deficiency of 40,000 dols. has been discovered in the accounts of Mr. Forney, Secretary to the Senate. The matter has been referred to a committee for investigation.

PARACUAY.

The Paraguayans have sustained fresh reverses. The outer lines which defend Humaita have been captured, and there was good reason to believe that that fortress would be evacuated. The

Paraguayans, however, seem determined to fight to the last extremity. They have removed all the cannon from Humaita. It is right to add that this information appears to come from a Brazilian source.

NEW ZEALAND.

Great gales and floods have occurred, and done sad mischief. One whole township (Outram) has been blotted out of the map. At Oamaru, in addition to the casualties on shore, the London clipper-ships Star of Tasmania and Water Nymph, and a little coasting steamer, the William Uriskip, were wrecked. Some passengers for home had already gone on board; but, fortunately, officers, crew, and passengers all succeeded in reaching the land except two young children. The scene along the shore was described as fearful.

CLOSE OF THE WAR IN ABYSSINIA.

Most important news was on Monday published as to events in Abyssinia. The war is at an end. King Theodore is dead. The captives have been rescued and sent to Zoulla. The British loss was about ten wounded. The army will return immediately. On Good Friday Sir Robert Napier had brought his forces within ten miles of Magdala. The enemy was in force, and posted in a very strong position. Their camp was visible on a precipitous height. The natural ravines they commanded had been made more difficult of approach by escarpments, and it was doubtful in what way the attack would begin. The enemy opened the battle. They attacked the first brigade, but were repulsed with great slaughter, and the moral effects of the defeat were even more important than its immediate result. The next day King Theodore tardily offered to treat, but was even then unwilling, as it would seem, to acknowledge the hopelessness of his position. An unconditional surrender of all the captives was demanded, though it was, indeed, feared that the English prisoners had been killed. On that day, however, and the next, Theodore sent into the British camp every European in his power, both the captives and artificers, but still declined to surrender himself into Sir Robert Napier's hands. Twenty-four hours were given him to decide, and, still resisting, Magdala was stormed on Easter Monday. The assault was conducted under cover of the Armstrong steel guns, the 8-in. mortars, and the rocket battery, and was completely successful. It is, indeed, true that by that time the Emperor seems to have lost all command over the mass of his forces. The most formidable position without the city had been surrendered, and the Abyssinians had laid down their arms by thousands. But Theodore was resolute, and a band of faithful adherents still defended him. It was in vain. He might and did resist desperately; but he was fighting against impossibilities. If we may credit one account, it would appear that in the decisive moment of his fate he was unmindful of his Imperial pretensions. The wilfulness of the man was manifested even then. He killed himself with his pistol as the British troops approached him, and thus escaped indignities which his own practices presented to his imagination. Other despatches simply say that he was killed; but, however it occurred, the fact was certain, for his dead body was recognised by those who had lately been his prisoners. With his death the war terminated. The captives had been released. The tyrant had spared us all pains of considering what punishment should be inflicted for his contumacy. Sir Robert Napier was preparing to march homewards with the rewards of his victory.

The facts were communicated in the two following despatches from Sir R. Napier to Sir Stafford Northcote. In the first (which is without date) Sir Robert telegraphs:—

An engagement took place before Magdala, on Good Friday, between our troops and the army of Theodore, in which the latter was defeated, with heavy loss. Casualties on our side:—Captain Roberts, 4th Foot, wounded in the arm, and fifteen rank and file wounded. No one killed. On the two following days Theodore sent into our camp every European that he had in his power, both captives and artificers. Theodore has not yet surrendered himself, according to my demand. He has been given twenty-four hours to decide. The King's troops are completely demoralised.

The second despatch is dated April 14:—

Theodore's army much disheartened by the severe losses of the 10th inst. A portion of the chiefs surrendered the most formidable position of Shilasse (?), and many thousand fighting men laid down their arms. Theodore retired to Magdala with all who remained faithful. Magdala taken by assault, on the 13th, under cover of Armstrong steel guns, 8-in. mortars, and rocket battery. Ascent to the gates most formidable. Theodore defended, defending to the last. Our loss small. Army will return immediately. About — guns and mortars taken.

In other despatches we read:—

King Theodore attacked the first brigade near Magdala on Good Friday, but was repulsed with heavy loss, about 500 men being killed. British loss—one officer wounded, nineteen non-commissioned officers, and men wounded. Darkness stopped the pursuit. The enemy left their wounded on the field. On Saturday Theodore sent in a flag of truce, and offered to treat for unconditional surrender of the English prisoners. The captives have joined the camp. It is believed the remaining Europeans will be surrendered. The Abyssinian troops are utterly disheartened. Theodore has attempted suicide. Captain Roberts, of the 4th King's Own, is wounded seriously.

Another despatch, direct from Suez, dated Head-quarters, April 14, says:—

Magdala was stormed yesterday. Theodore was deserted by nearly all his army, but made two desperate attempts at resistance with a few devoted followers, and finally killed himself with his pistol as the British troops approached him. British loss—ten men wounded.

A telegram from the *New York Herald* correspondent with the expedition, dated the 13th, says:—

Theodore had retreated to Magdala. He planted five guns at the base of the ascent. When General Napier came in sight the King opened fire. The English replied with 10-pounder Armstrong guns and 7-pounder rockets. The King left his guns, barricaded the sallyports, and opened with musketry. He gave no signs of surrendering. The bombardment lasted three hours. An assault was then ordered. The fortress was carried after vigorous resistance. The Abyssinian loss is sixty-eight killed and 200 wounded. The English loss is fifteen wounded, rank and file. King Theodore was found dead, shot in the head. His body was recognised by the Europeans who had been released. Some say he was killed in battle, and others that he committed suicide. His two sons have been taken prisoners. The fortress presents many evidences of barbaric splendour. Among the trophies taken are four gold crowns, 20,000 dols., 1000 silver plates, many jewels and other articles, 5000 stand of arms, twenty-eight pieces of artillery, 10,000 shields, and 10,000 spears. The European prisoners will depart for the seacoast to-morrow. The army will depart immediately.

So far as the despatches already received by the Government show, it does not appear certain whether King Theodore killed himself or was slain while actually fighting against the British army. It is, however, stated, that his two sons, who were taken prisoners, assert that the wounds of which the King died were self-inflicted.

The following names of the principal persons who were held in captivity by King Theodore is taken from the Bluebook which was presented to Parliament a short time ago:—1, Mr. H. Russell (Syrian), agent of the British Government; 2, Mr. C. D. Cameron (English), British Consul at Massowah; 3, Mr. L. Kerans (Irish), Secretary to Consul Cameron; 4, Dr. Blanc (German); 5, Lieutenant Pridaux, officer in the British Army; 6, R. M. McElvey (Irish), servant to Mr. Cameron; 7, J. Makrer (French), ditto; 8, M. A. Bardel (French), painter and teacher of languages; 9, Rev. H. A. Stern (German), missionary; 10, Mrs. Rosenthal (English); 11, Rev. H. Rosenthal (German), missionary; 12, Rev. J. M. Flad (German), missionary; 13, Mrs. Flad (German), and her three children; 14, Rev. W. Staiger (German), missionary; 15, Rev. F. Brandeis (German), missionary; 16, H. Schiller (German), natural-history collector; 17, T. Essler (German), ditto. Those not enumerated in the above list consist of European workmen tempted to Abyssinia by Theodore, and detained as captives.

The formidable character of the operation which the troops had to perform in storming Magdala may be gathered from the following description of that fortress given by Herr von Henglin, in his recently-published "Reise nach Abessinien":—"Magdala occupies a superficial area of two English miles, is on an elevation from 100 ft. to 200 ft. above the plateau of Islam-Gie, and is connected on the south with the adjoining table-land by a low, long, and sharp ridge. On the east and west are natural bastions, in shape like a perpendicular wall. Many of these bastions are 100 ft. high. On the north

and south there are natural gates formed by chasms in the rock: these are very strongly fortified. There is also some water on the Amba, and a certain quantity of cultivated land. The Negus, knowing the importance of the Amba, because of its relations with Shoa and also because the Gallas can easily be held in check by the fortress, has done all in his power to restore the fortifications. He has also brought in some guns and established a well-provided armoury and extensive corn magazines. Tanta is only separated from Magdala by a not very wide but deep valley; the road across it is not of the best. It descends from Islam-Gie so steep an incline that it seems hardly possible to bring mules down it without danger. It then proceeds upwards over many gullies and rocks to a very narrow plateau, which is somewhat higher than that on which Magdala is placed. This plateau grows wider towards the north, and proceeds for some distance in the direction of the Bashilo. An artificial cutting, with watch-houses, leads across a portion of the plateau, which is barely a hundred paces wide. North of this are some hills, protected on the side of the valley by precipices and cuttings with the camp and corn magazines of Tanta. The plateau of Tanta is connected, as above stated, with the neighbouring table-land on the south by a sort of tongue of land, stretches about two miles northward towards the Bashilo, and then descends in two gradations from four to five miles further to the east. It is everywhere surrounded by high and steep walls of basalt. The Bashilo is described as a stream of some thirty paces broad, and two or three feet deep, flowing in a stony bed of from two to three times that width. It has a very rapid current.

As some fears have been expressed lest the return of our army may be delayed by the rains which usually fall in the beginning of May, we may add the following statement from a correspondent in Abyssinia:—"The Abyssinian plateau may be briefly described as a series of extensive grassy plains, every now and then intersected by deep ravines, with precipitous and rocky slopes. The country drains westward towards the Nile; there is very little drainage eastward toward the Red Sea. Consequently, if our route from Annesley Bay does lead into a mountain torrent bed, it is clear our base cannot be cut off by long-continued floods. The drainage from the mountains on each side most probably runs out in a few hours after very heavy rain in the hills."

THE KU-KLUX-KLAN.

ONE of the New York papers gives an account of the discoveries made in the meeting-place of a lodge or "den," as it is called, of the Ku-Klux-Klan, in Tennessee. The name of the den was the "Supreme Cyclopean Council;" its officers were a Grand Cyclops, a Vice-Grand Cyclops, and a secretary, who, with two directors, were to control the funds of the order, and whose vote upon all matters was to be final. The meetings to be called by the Grand Cyclops through the cipher of the organisation. On the table in the centre of the hall was found a human skull, which was required in the administering of the oath. The following "constitution" explains the objects of the order:—

ORGANISATION.—The name of this den shall be the Supreme Cyclopean Council; and its officers shall consist of a Grand Cyclops, a Vice Grand Cyclops, and a secretary. All funds coming into the association shall be under the control of the three officers above named and two directors, to be elected, who shall act as a supervising council, and their decision upon all questions shall be final. The meetings shall be called by the Grand Cyclops through the cipher of the organisation. On the table in the centre of the hall was found a human skull, which was required in the administering of the oath. The following "constitution" explains the objects of the order:—

OBJECT.—The object of this organisation is for the purpose of protecting

the people of the South from the band of murderers and robbers now preying upon them, even to the last resort—assassination; and we pledge ourselves one to the other that nothing shall be allowed to deviate us from this noble object.

ENTRANCE.—Entrance to the lodge-room will be obtained through the medium of two raps in quick succession, to be followed by two slow ones. The inside sentinel will say "Our trust;" the outside applicant will answer "Is in God." He will then be admitted; and, upon giving the grip, as detailed in another place, he can take his seat.

INITIATION.—All candidates shall be balloted for in open council, and if any applicant receive three black balls he cannot be admitted. As soon as a candidate is elected, he shall be introduced by a brother appointed by the Grand Cyclops. The members of the lodge, all shrouded, will rise and receive him, and conduct him into the middle of the room. Each member of the order shall have a drawn dagger or other weapon in his hand, pointed towards the candidate; and each member will be required, in the presence of the candidate, to swear that, should said candidate prove recreant to the oath which he is about to take, he will kill him, and make it his especial duty to do so on the first safe opportunity. As soon as the shrouded brothers have taken the above oath, the following charge and oath shall be administered by the Grand Cyclops, or, in his absence, the Vice Grand:—

"Here, in the presence of this skull and the members here assembled, I solemnly swear to be true to the order, to its members individually and collectively; and should I ever, by sign, word, or deed, betray a secret or a member of the brotherhood, that the skull upon which I now look may be a counterpart of mine, and I hope that all the social relations which I now enjoy may be sundered, that honesty in the men or virtue in the females may not be known in my family and generation, and that all who own my name shall be branded as dogs and harlots. I further swear to obey implicitly the orders of the Grand Cyclops, regularly issued through his council, and as soon as I receive an order to fulfil it. I again swear that, should a member of this order be in danger, even at the risk of my life, I will defend and endeavour to save him. That I will give no outward sign or hint that a person may know of the existence of the K. K. K., unless authorised by the Grand Cyclops, and that each member of this order, as soon as the sign is given, I will recognise, defend, and protect as a brother. I further swear that I will, under and in all circumstances, bear true allegiance to the South and her interests, as interpreted by the Supreme Cyclopean Council, and when I receive its orders, should I be even in the embraces of my wife, I will leave her to obey them. I further swear that all Radicals and negroes who have placed themselves opposite to the interests of the owners of the soil of Tennessee shall for ever be my enemy, and that under no circumstance will I have other connection with them, if I can help it, than to welcome them with bloody hands to hospitable graves." That my family and the family of a Radical shall never interchange visits. And I further pray that the God of the Southland, whom I now invoke, shall strike me dead should I ever, either in letter or in spirit, infringe upon the things set forth in this oath. To all of which I swear in honesty of heart and sincerity of purpose. So help me God!"

In regard to the grip, your committee report that the simplest plan, at the same time, the best, would be a common meeting of the palms, at the same time using the interlocking of little fingers and a pressure of thumbs on the back of the hand. The word of danger for the present is "Eli Lama Sabachthani," which all members are recommended to commit to memory.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.—The Conservatives have made a gain at Cockermouth. The candidates were Mr. Thompson, Tory, and Mr. Fletcher, Liberal. At the close of the poll Mr. Thompson had 171 votes, against 144 given for Mr. Fletcher.—At Grantham, Mr. Turner, a Conservative, has been returned, in place of Mr. Welby, also a Conservative.—For Radnorshire, Mr. Arthur Walsh (Conservative) has been elected in the room of his father, now Lord Ormathwaite; while for Loomister, Lord Mahon comes in, vice Mr. Arthur Walsh. Lord Mahon, like his predecessor, is a Tory, though he calls himself a Liberal Conservative. Another Conservative victory has been achieved at Bristol. Mr. Miles, the local candidate, has been returned by a majority of 204 over Mr. Samuel Morley. The place of Sir John Trollope, now Baron Kesteven, as representative of South Lincolnshire, was on Wednesday filled by the unopposed return of Mr. Welby. Mr. Campbell (Liberal) has been chosen to replace Mr. Oliphant as member for the Stirling Burghs.—The East Kent election, to supply the vacancy caused by the elevation of Sir Brook Bridges to the House of Lords, resulted, on Thursday, in the return of Mr. Pemberton (Conservative) by a majority of 107 over Mr. Tufton, the Liberal candidate.

FIVE MEN DROWNED IN THE SOLWAY.—A fatal accident of a very disastrous kind occurred in the Solway Firth on Sunday afternoon. Five young men, employed at Annan, set out from that port in a small boat, rigged up with a sail, and crossed the Solway Firth to Bowness, on the Cumberland shore. They reached their destination in safety, and in the afternoon set out for home with the ebb tide. They had not proceeded half-way across when it was observed from the shore that their mast had got wrong and the sail swayed over the side. Shortly afterwards the boat capsized, and all the five men were thrown into the sea. Three of them sank almost immediately, being quite unable to resist the powerful force of the ebbing tide, and were drowned; but the other two clung to the overturned boat, which drifted down to the railway bridge which crosses the Firth below Bowness. There, it is conjectured, the anchor dragged against the piers of the viaduct, for the boat swung round. The two men, who were still clinging to it, made a desperate effort to save themselves, but the boat filled with water and sank, carrying with it the only two survivors of the pleasure party, and thus increasing the number of deaths to five.

ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE PRINCE ALFRED.

PAINFUL news has reached this country from Australia. His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh has been shot at and wounded at a picnic at Clontarf, Port Jackson. The assassin, a man named O'Farrell, aimed at the Duke's back. The wound, though dangerous, was not fatal. Within two days of its infliction the ball was extracted, and within eight days his Royal Highness was sufficiently recovered to go on board his ship. The assassin, who wounded one of the bystanders before he was arrested, declared himself to be a Fenian.

The conviction of O'Farrell has followed swiftly on his crime. He was tried on March 31, found guilty, and sentenced to be hanged, notwithstanding that a plea of insanity was set up in his behalf. The attempt to murder is still a capital offence in Australia: it was classed among capital offences in England till within a few years ago, when it was taken out of that category by special Act of Parliament.

The particulars of the vile attempt are conveyed in the following telegraphic despatches:—

THE EARL OF BELMORO, SYDNEY, TO SECRETARY OF STATE, COLONIAL OFFICE.

On March 12 a person named O'Farrell deliberately shot his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh in the back at a public picnic given in aid of the Sailors' Home at Clontarf, Nidle Harbour, Port Jackson. Providentially, the wound was not fatal, and he is now able to go on board his ship, and hopes shortly to resume his duties. The ball was easily removed on Saturday, March 14, by Drs. Watson and Young, of her Majesty's ships Challenger and Galatea. O'Farrell fired another shot the moment he was seized, which severely wounded a gentleman named Thorne in the foot. The ball has been extracted, and he is doing well. The assassin, who avowed himself to be a Fenian, was arrested on the spot. In consequence of the report of a medical board, Commodore Lambert has ordered his Royal Highness to return to England as soon as he is sufficiently recovered, which will probably be next week.

The following despatch was received at the Admiralty, last Saturday morning, from Commodore Lambert, commanding the Australian station, dated Sydney, March 28, addressed to the Secretary of the Admiralty, Whitehall. The despatch was received at Point de Galle on the 20th ult., and thence by telegraph:—

On March 12 his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh was deliberately shot in the back, by a man named O'Farrell, at a public picnic given in aid of the Sailors' Home at Clontarf, Nidle Harbour, Port Jackson. Providentially, the wound was not fatal, and he is now able to go on board his ship. The ball entered the back half an inch from the spine, struck the ninth rib, followed round the course of the rib, and lodged five inches from the umbilicus and four inches and a quarter beneath the right nipple, having traversed a distance of twelve inches and a quarter. It was easily removed on Saturday, March 14, by Drs. Watson and Young, of her Majesty's ships Challenger and Galatea. The assassin, who avowed himself to be a Fenian, was arrested on the spot, and was arraigned before the Supreme Court yesterday on the capital charge of wounding with intent to kill. On application of counsel for the defence, a postponement of the trial till Monday next was granted. A defence on the ground of insanity will be set up. In consequence of the report of the medical board, I have ordered his Royal Highness to return to England as soon as he is sufficiently recovered, which will probably be next week.

Further telegrams from the Earl of Belmore to the Secretary of State for the Colonies intimate that the assassination of his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh was attempted by O'Farrell in pursuance of messages sent from conspirators in this country, which ordered the Prince's death.

It is understood that O'Farrell was selected by lot to perpetrate the crime, and that the attempt would have been made when the Prince landed in state, but that an opportunity of doing so without risk of injury to others did not occur.

The New South Wales Government offered £1000 reward for the apprehension of each accomplice; and one arrest, considered to be important, has been made in Victoria.

His Royal Highness is reported, on April 1, to have recovered from his wound. He was to sail for England on the 4th. O'Farrell's attempt on the Prince's life has caused an outburst of horror and indignation throughout the colonies. Enormous demonstrations have taken place, and numerous addresses have been signed. Prayers and thanksgivings have been offered up in all the churches.

THE MURDER OF MR. D'ARCY M'GEE.—At Ottawa, the evidence against Whelan as the murderer of Thomas D'Arcy M'Gee is constantly accumulating, and there is said to be no longer any doubt of his guilt. It appears that after shooting M'Gee he ran into an unoccupied house on the opposite side of the street, which accounts for his sudden disappearance. Footmarks were found in the snow at the rear of this house corresponding exactly to the prints made by Whelan's boots. Public meetings are being held in all parts of Canada to express indignation at the murder and to condole with the family of the deceased. The funeral of M'Gee took place on April 13, with imposing ceremonies, at Montreal.

THE "COCK PENNY."—A curious usage is prevalent in the north of the West Riding of Yorkshire, by which a sum of money called a "cock penny" is paid to the head master of a school on Shrove Tuesday, not as a school fee, but as a voluntary personal payment or perquisite. It appears that Shrove-tide was once the season for throwing at cocks, and that the diversion of cock-fighting was part of the annual routine of several grammar-schools in Lancashire, Westmorland, and the adjacent parts of Yorkshire. The playground was the place of this diversion, and the head master was accustomed to furnish the cocks, to preside over the sport, and to give a little entertainment to the boys and to their parents afterwards. The "cock penny" was his gratuity for providing this diversion. At Sedbergh the usage has been transformed to the fee of a guinea for the head master and 10s. 6d. for the usher, paid on Shrove Tuesday; and although it is, perhaps, needless to add that the boys have ceased to receive any sport from their masters as an equivalent. Mr. J. G. Fitch, one of the Assistant Schools Inquiry Commissioners, calls attention to the matter in order to show that the obsolete usage of cock-fighting is at this moment the pretext for charging a fee of a guinea and a half in this Sedbergh school, and he adds that in other "free schools" a similar rule prevails.

THE BOUNDARY BILL.—This bill, which embodies the results of the recommendations of the Boundary Commissioners, is generally regarded as one of a formal character, and not likely to be the case with the bill now before Parliament, which gives rise in many towns to considerable agitation to prevent some of its special recommendations being carried into effect. For instance, in Birmingham, the inhabitants of Balsall Heath, one of the suburbs of the town, but situated in another county—the eastern division of Worcestershire—find themselves by this bill proposed to be included in the borough of Birmingham, which is situated in Warwickshire. The electors of Birmingham are already a very large body, and need no additions to their numbers; while the inhabitants of Balsall Heath are well content to remain where they are, electors of the eastern division of Worcestershire. Besides, many of them have no business or connection whatever in Birmingham, and the district in which they are residents has been for twenty years separately incorporated under the Public Health Act, and they have prided themselves upon the possession of the county vote, and many of them have laboured all their lives to attain it. They, therefore, are much agitated at the prospect of losing it at the caprice of the Boundary Commissioners. They have petitioned Parliament through the Hon. Mr. Calthorpe, and they trust that Mr. Dixon or Mr. Bright will move that Birmingham be exempted from the Boundary Bill.

THE PROTESTANT DEFENCE COMMITTEE AND MR. GLADSTONE.—A "private and confidential" circular, gently urgent in its tone, has been addressed, by the honorary secretary of the United Protestant Defence Committee, to the clergy of the English Church, who are requested to look upon the crisis in a religious rather than a political light, and to "resist by all means in their power the attempt to destroy the Established Church in Ireland, as the first step towards abolishing the connection between Church and State in Great Britain." Inclosed in the circular is a printed copy of a petition to the Queen, which, after the expression of much "astonishment and alarm" at the resolutions "suddenly introduced into the honourable House of Commons, for the purpose of disestablishing and overthrowing the Established Church in Ireland," concludes thus:—"That, whilst your memorialists desire that their Roman Catholic fellow-subjects should continue in the full enjoyment of civil and religious liberty, they believe that as it was granted so it can be best secured under a Constitution maintaining a national church, and acknowledging the supremacy of the Crown. Your memorialists therefore humbly pray that your Majesty, bearing in mind the principles which placed your Majesty's family on the throne, will be graciously pleased to refuse your sanction to any such measure; and your memorialists earnestly pray that the blessing and guidance of Almighty God may be vouchsafed to your Majesty, and that you may be enabled to preserve for them and their children the national recognition of the true faith, as set forth in the Word of God and embodied in the creeds, articles, and liturgy of the United Church of England and Ireland. And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray." A form of petition to the House of Commons "from the undersigned inhabitants of—" is likewise obligingly furnished, together with ample directions for obtaining signatures, and an intimation that "males and females may sign."

MR. GLADSTONE AND HIS MALICNERS.

MR. GLADSTONE has addressed the following letter to the newspapers, in reference to certain slanders that have recently been circulated regarding him:—

Sir,—Though reluctant to attempt any encroachment on your space with reference to personal matters, I feel that I have no alternative at a time when personal charges, however irrelevant, are employed as the means of injuring or impeding a great cause.

Within the last fortnight or thereabouts, the following statements, purporting to be of fact, have been assiduously circulated respecting me in different parts of the country:—

1. That while in Rome I made arrangements with the Pope to destroy the Church Establishment in Ireland, with some other like matters, being myself a Roman Catholic at heart.

2. That during and since the Government of Sir Robert Peel I have resisted and (till now) prevented the preferment of Dr. Wynter.

3. That I have publicly condemned all support of the clergy in the three kingdoms from Church or public funds.

4. That when at Balmoral I refused to attend her Majesty at Crathie church.

5. That I have received the thanks of the Pope for my proceeding respecting the Irish Church.

6. That I am a member of a High Church Ritualist congregation.

Aware how in times of public excitement rumour grows and gathers through the combined action of eagerness, credulity, and levity, I will not bestow a single harsh word upon any of these statements. Neither will I advert to the cause to which some of them may be due; for I am determined to avoid, as long as it may be possible, envenoming a great political controversy, and what I think a noble cause, with the elements of religious bigotry and hatred. But I will, in the first place, declare that these statements, one and all, are untrue, in letter and in spirit, from the beginning to the end; and, since it is impossible for me to continue entangled, as I have recently been, in the searches and correspondences which such fictions entail, I venture to request all persons whatsoever who may be interested in the matter, if any like statements should hereafter come under their view, in the interest of truth to withhold their belief.

To more vague and general charges this is not the place to refer.

That Mr. Gladstone should find it necessary to disclaim personal charges "assiduously circulated respecting him in different parts of the country," and to declare them "one and all untrue, in letter and in spirit, from the beginning to the end," is a curious comment upon party tactics. The advocates of the Irish Establishment, finding the "No Popery" bugbear ineffectual, seem to have fastened upon Mr. Gladstone with the desperate eagerness of sinking men. No straw has been too light or fragile to give them hope; no story too wild, or improbable, or inconsistent for their grasp. The Liberal leader is a Roman Catholic, and, therefore, the secret enemy of Church and State; he has allowed religious bigotry to stifle the decencies of life, and refused to conform to the rules of the Royal house in which he was a guest; he has had thanks from the Pope, and stabbed Dr. Wynter in the back; he has a private oratory at Carlton-terrace, and his great speeches have been composed by the Jesuits; he would rob the Crown of its privileges and the State of its most precious safeguard—he is Guy Fawkes and Titus Oakes, Colonel Blood and Machiavelli, all rolled into one. Such are the kind of anecdotes which find favour in the eyes of a Conservative contemporary, and provide excitement for provincial dowagers and country tea-parties. *Punch's* amusing cartoon of the Premier sketching his great rival as a melodramatic conspirator is a sober fact compared to the fantastic calumnies with which Mr. Disraeli's supporters endeavour to give him support. Mr. Gladstone, "being determined to avoid envenoming a great political controversy and a noble cause with the elements of religious bigotry and hatred," will not "bestow a single harsh word upon the statements" put forth concerning him. We trust, however, the transparent folly of many of the recent inventions will condone their malice, and be some guarantee against their repetition. The profound speculations as to when, and how, and why, Mr. Disraeli communicated; and if, and when, and where, he was christened, are equally contemptible.—*Express*.

STRIKE IN THE LIVERPOOL BUILDING TRADE.—The Bricklayers' Union has caused a strike at the works of Messrs. Holme and Nicol, large builders and contractors of Liverpool, the grounds of dispute being understood to be the refusal of Messrs. Holme and Nicol's foreman to pay a penalty of £5 towards the expenses of a former strike, and an opposition to a new code of rules of which the master builders had given notice. The Master Builders' Association have intimated that unless the strike against Messrs. Holme and Nicol be immediately withdrawn, steps will be taken to protect that firm, and that after the 4th inst., the master bricklayers will only employ men who are willing to work under the new code of rules.

THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—From the report of this society it appears that the balance-sheet shows receipts during the past year to the amount of £25,000, of which sum so much as £12,000 is from admissions to the gardens, and over £6000 from subscribers—a very large proportion for the sake of securing a Sunday promenade. The receipts for 1867 exhibit a considerable increase over those of the previous year, which is the more satisfactory as most institutions have had to suffer a falling off. Dr. Shortt is expected in London soon, from India, bringing with him about a dozen of the walking fishes of India, as a present to the Zoological Society's gardens from Dr. Day. The largest species grows to upwards of three feet in length, and, if they succeed in England, they will be a valuable addition to our lakes and canals.

KEBLE COLLEGE, OXFORD.—The first stone of Keble College—the first college founded in Oxford for more than two centuries and a half—was, last Saturday, laid by the Archbishop of Canterbury, in the presence of a very large number of distinguished personages. The ceremony was preceded by service in St. Mary's Church, where the Bishop of Oxford preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion. After the laying of the stone there was a large and most enthusiastic meeting held in the Sheldonian Theatre—the Archbishop in the chair—when speeches were delivered by Lord Carnarvon, the Bishop of Oxford and Lichfield, and Mr. Gathorne Hardy, who caused a profound sensation by reading a Home Office telegram respecting the attempt to assassinate the Duke of Edinburgh. The proceedings were altogether most successful.

SETTING THE HOUSE IN ORDER.—An Irish Rector, the Rev. Mr. Anderson, of Donegal, prints, in a Dublin paper, a scheme for the distribution of a common fund among the clergy of an Irish Episcopal voluntary church; the nucleus of this fund being the purchase money of the life interests of the present beneficed clergy. He assumes that 1500 clergy would be sufficient for Ireland; and he would pay them—250 at £100, rising £10 in salary a year with every fifty, up to £240; and constituting £250 the highest remuneration, to be given to 550 Incumbents. This would require £285,000 per annum. He calculates that with life interests and glebe-houses not much less than this would be commanded; whilst with the contributions of

ticket, and warrant its familiar eulogium as the "cheapest guinea's worth in the world."

The first event of the season will be the grand opening performance, on May 2, of Mendelssohn's "Reformation Symphony," till recently unheard in England. This will be played by a band of 150 instrumentalists, conducted by Mr. Manns. Besides this, the music by the same composer, to "Oedipus at Colonus" will be given, with a chorus of 1000 male voices, and there will also be a miscellaneous selection by artistes of Her Majesty's Opera, including Mdlle. Kellogg, Mdlle. Sinico, Mdme. Trebelli-Bettini, Signor Fraschini, Signor Agretti, Signor Foli, and Signor Gassier.

There will this year be eight opera concerts, on Saturdays, commencing on May 9, six supported by the artistes of Her Majesty's Opera, including besides the above, Mdlle. Titien, Mdlle. Christine Nilsson, Mr. Santley, Signor Mongini, &c.; and the other two by Mdlle. Adelina Patti, Mdlle. Lucca, Signor Mario, Signor Graziani, and other artistes of the Royal Italian Opera. These concerts, aided as they are by a well-trained choir and eminent solo instrumentalists, must needs exercise their usual attraction in the most beautiful locality for a summer concert that can be conceived.

As heretofore, the great flower show, on May 23, and the rose show, on June 20, will be the chief horticultural attractions of the metropolitan season. These are in near juxtaposition in point of time with the popular Dramatic College fêtes, the grand displays of fireworks—for which unusual features of brilliancy from Rome, Turin, &c., are promised; the archery fêtes; and the choral demonstrations by school children, conducted by Mr. Martin, Mr. Hullah, and Mr. Sarll. The attractive and popular Ballad Concerts and the unique Saturday Concerts will be continued, and the Picture Gallery maintained, with a special exhibition of 300 exquisite water-colour drawings, by Professor Hildebrandt (Court painter to the King of Prussia), of cities and landscapes in Egypt, China, India, Japan, America, &c.

A novelty, which cannot fail to prove attractive, is promised in an exhibition of engines, machinery, apparatus, models, plans, drawings, &c., illustrative of the history and present state of aeronautical science. Flying, or swimming in the air, has been one of the great object of human ambition since man was first created to walk erect. The efforts to accomplish this object have been innumerable, and the present exhibition, commencing on June 25, and promoted by the Aeronautical Society of Great Britain, of which the Duke of Argyll is president, will doubtless comprise many interesting and amusing illustrations of them. Experimental ascents will be made in a captive balloon for meteorological and other purposes; and, altogether, the project is one of the most remarkable which the directors of the Crystal Palace Company have yet placed before the public.

In the season programme attention is especially directed to the remarkable beauty which the park and gardens have attained in the fifteen years since they were first laid out and planted. It would, indeed, appear that the grand designs of Sir Joseph Paxton may now almost for the first time be duly realised and appreciated. Standing, as the Crystal Palace does, on the most commanding eminence on the south or sunny side of London, it must always maintain its pre-eminence as the favourite resort, amid the most beautiful scenery near the metropolis.

It is evident from the programme that the prospects of the Crystal Palace have never been more promising, or more gratifying, than at present. With fifteen years' experience, an increased amount of activity and energy is displayed which cannot fail to be attended with the best results.

THE LAST SCENE AT THE OLD BAILEY.

(From the *Express*.)

THE scene in court, on Monday, at the Old Bailey, was pronounced remarkable even by those most accustomed to criminal proceedings. During the summing up William Desmond sat immovable as a statue. The florid complexion noted at the beginning of the trial had all gone, and left a deadly pallor. No marble could be whiter than his face; and his long, straight nose looked pinched, and cold,

and rigid, as if it belonged to a corpse. The massive beard, which entirely buries his mouth and chin, remained as motionless as if it were stuck on some wax figure. His head stood fixed at one angle, in a corner of the dock, as if concentrated anxiety had deprived him of power of motion. All four prisoners were seated so that their heads and shoulders were alone visible from the bench. But of William Desmond, sitting in the left-hand corner of the dock he has occupied since the trial began, you saw nothing but face and a profusion of coarse red hair below it. He never moved, and in his ghastly whiteness might have been a human head cut off and placed there to keep its blinking eyes upon the Judge. The eyelids alone showed him to be alive, and these quivered and rose and fell while the Lord Chief Justice dealt with the facts relating to their owner, much as if they were gazing on a bright and shining flame. Intense, absorbed anxiety, kept down by self-

less. The tears he was supposed to be hiding had never come, and his small eyes, low forehead, and sunken cheeks were stolid and expressionless as a blank wall. Timothy Desmond might have furnished a second Lavater a head and face for Fear, and Barrett one for Despair. The former was restless, hungry, eager. Keenly alive to the slightest movement or whisper in court, he turned to right and left, and even gazed up into the gallery as if pitifully praying for an encouraging smile or a sympathising look. When, however, the Judge passed from his case to that of Barrett, this Desmond broke into a smile of thankfulness. He saw hope of escape now, and sat through the rest of the proceedings with a palpably lightened heart. Barrett looked wretched. All the dash and fire had faded out, and instead of the reckless buccaneer of a few days ago you saw a careworn, miserable man, whose weary, dejected face seemed like a forecast of his doom. Nothing could add to his profound wretchedness, and he listened with a look of dogged, hardy endurance to words which drew the sure rope tighter and tighter about his neck. Once only was he roused. When the Lord Chief Justice pointed out the improbability of the alibi, and reminded the jury that Barrett had had abundant opportunities of producing his Glasgow witnesses before, the prisoner jumped up hastily from his seat, and, dashing off a few lines in pencil with a freedom and rapidity which showed him to be at least educated up to the ready-writing point, handed them to a policeman for his solicitor. A moment's conference between the latter and counsel, an interchange of nods with Barrett, and Mr. Baker Greene rises to advance a plea which is not allowed by the Bench.

When the verdict is delivered, and the two Desmonds hear the welcome "Not guilty" sonorously given from the jury-box, William again passes his long white hand over his marble brow and through his beard, but moves not otherwise, and is self-contained and statuque as ever. Timothy gives another deep sigh of relief, and smiles outright, as, clasping his hands tightly over his chest, he murmurs his fervent thanks to the Virgin or his patron saint for his escape. English gives a snort of satisfaction, and turns away as if to walk into the street there and then, but his coarse and heavy features remain without play or expression as before. All three men are removed by the policeman in charge, and leave the dock with a silent bow to the Bench and jury, but without shaking hands with or noticing their less fortunate companion. All three men seem dazed, and the interest centres on Barrett, who has heard five out of the six people originally charged with him declared not guilty, and who now stands alone to bear the consequences of the most frightful crime of modern times. Pale and stern, though cowed, his iron jaw drooping a little from its rigidity; and the furrows on his brow deepened and made stronger by the tension of the moment, he lets the time for speaking pass by, and the Lord Chief Justice proceeds to pass sentence almost without an interval after the question "Has the prisoner anything to say?" from the Clerk of the Arraignment below. But after his preliminary observations are concluded, and before the technical terms of hanging and burial are given out, Barrett, who has listened patiently so far, and with his eye unflinchingly on



M. JULES FAVRE, THE NEWLY-ELECTED MEMBER OF THE FRENCH ACADEMY.

command and cunning, were represented by this prisoner, who never glanced into the court, or among the counsel, or at the jury, until his case was passed, and the summing-up as affecting English began. Then, with a mighty sigh, as if his vast load of fear and dread were lessened by the evidently favourable tone of the Judge, the rigid attitude of listening was relaxed for a moment, and the long, lithe, white fingers, corporeal in their clamminess, were pushed rapidly over brow, and through the beard and hair. This done, the air of patient waiting was resumed, and the still blinking eyes roved from the Bench to the jury-box and back again, as if to read in their faces whether he was to die. Nicholas English, who came next in the Judge's summing up, but who sat next to Barrett in the dock, kept his face hidden the greater part of the day. Once he took a pen and piece of paper from the shelf before him, and wrote something on his knee, which his neighbours read over his shoulder. But by far the greater part of the time you only saw the back of his head; though when the face came to the surface it was utterly emotion-

less. The Judge, starts forward and begs to be heard. He had not—what was undoubtedly true, for no pause was made for him—lied to interrupt his Lordship before, but he had, indeed, much to say. Then came a remarkable speech. This man, convicted, and properly convicted, of a dreadful crime, and looking, as he said, into his own grave, poured out in nervous, forcible language, his contempt for his betrayer and his misguided hopes for his country. A profound silence was observed. During the half hour he spoke he made many pauses, but rather, as it seemed, to concentrate his points than to conceal emotion. Sarcastic, defiant, and denunciatory in portions of his address, when he painted Mullany's future in the quotation from Scripture, he assumed an air of lofty contempt. He hissed out, "Men shall clap their hands at him, and hiss him out of his place," with a melodramatic intensity sometimes witnessed on the stage; and laughed scornfully at himself for even momentarily assuming that "an unprejudiced man could find his way into this place" (the court). At the words, "the jury cannot in their

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 329.

BUDGET.

BUDGET! The meaning of this word is a bag or sack. Formerly, no doubt, the Chancellor of the Exchequer used to bring down his papers, when he had to lay before the House the financial statement for the year, in a bag. Green, blue, or red; probably, green, for that was the colour of official bags until the trial of Queen Caroline, in 1820. Then, because the Government papers and evidence against her Majesty were laid upon the table of the House of Lords inclosed in a green bag, official green bags all over the country became hateful to the people. It was a common thing during the trial to get up bonfires to burn the green bag. The writer of this article assisted at one of these ceremonies. After this, green bags silently disappeared. Indeed, it was scarcely safe for a lawyer to carry a green bag through the streets. But the Chancellor of the Exchequer does not use a bag now. His papers are brought to the House, like those of all other Government officials, in boxes—despatch-boxes, we call them.

FUNNY INCIDENT.

And here we may mention a funny little incident, which occurred on Thursday night week. Mr. Hunt was late. The ordinary preliminary business was finished off, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer had not arrived. Where was he? What could have happened? The Treasury bench was agitated. The Conservative whips rushed about, distractingly, anxiously inquiring everywhere, "Have you seen Hunt? Have you seen Hunt?" The members enjoyed the joke vastly. The suspense, however, did not last long. Not more than five minutes expired when the door swung open and the ponderous form of the Chancellor of the Exchequer appeared. A burst of cheering and laughter greeted him as he walked up the House, "But where's my box?" said he, as he looked at the table. Alas! there was no box. Here was, then, a dilemma. For what is a Chancellor of the Exchequer upon a Budget night without his box? especially a Chancellor of the Exchequer quite new to his work. Gladstone would have commenced without his box, and, unaided by notes, would have gone on for half an hour. Again there was agitation in the Ministerial ranks; again the whips were flying about distractingly. Inquiries were made at the door, but no box had arrived. It ought to have arrived long before. Mr. Hunt had sent it off and expected to find it on the table. But here again the suspense was soon ended; just as a scout was about to be dispatched to the Treasury, messenger rushed across the lobby with the all-important box in his hand. It was seized by an official of the House, handed to a Conservative member who, lounging at the door, was promptly impressed into service for the occasion, and he carried it in triumph, amidst cheering and laughter, to the table and laid it before Mr. Hunt, who, smiling at it lovingly, as a father would at a rescued child, unlocked it, opened it, and began his work.

THIS PICTURE—AND THAT.

What nights our Budgets used to be, when Palmerston was Premier and Gladstone was Chancellor of the Exchequer! The House was on those nights full to overflowing; not only was every bench crammed but members squatted on the steps in the gangways, with their hands clasped round their knees, to ease the awkward position, for three hours at a stretch, at the risk of stiffening contracting in their limbs and even lumbago in their backs. Behind the chair there was a crowd of standers, unable to sit or squat; and another above the bar. In the peers' gallery and above the clock you might see princes, ambassadors, archbishops, bishops, and peers of all ranks—the one half of them obliged to stand in the passage because there was no room for them to sit; whilst every part of the House allotted to strangers was crammed. Then, outside, what a mob there used to be! filling all corridors, jamming the doorways, perplexing the chief authorities, bewildering the police, and so annoying and impeding the doorkeepers that they had not infrequently to summon Mr. Inspector and get him to muster his force and sweep the mob of gentlemen clear out of the lobby into the central hall. Such was the scene when Gladstone was about to open his Budget. But the scene on Thursday night was all different. When Mr. Hunt stepped on to the boards the House was not full; there were few peers present below; the Ambassadors' gallery above was nearly empty; there were gaps of vacancy in the strangers' galleries, whilst the lobby and corridors were empty, silent, and even desolate.

GENIUS AND NO GENIUS.

What was the cause of this change? Are the people now less interested in our financial position and prospects than they used to be? If the truth must be told, the people never were at any time in our recollection profoundly interested in these annual financial statements. It is, and always was, the performer in these dramas that draws or repels. When crowds came down on Budget nights, it was because a great orator or man of genius was Chancellor of the Exchequer. They failed to come on that Thursday night because the gentleman who was then to open the Budget is not a man of genius and has no oratorical power. The Budget itself is not an interesting document. It is a mere financial statement—what we proposed to raise by taxation last year, what we did actually raise; what we proposed to spend, what we did spend; what we propose to spend next year; how we propose to get the money. This is the bare Budget; and is not of itself attractive—a statement rather to be read quietly at breakfast than to be listened to in the House. But, in the hands of Gladstone, we know what a Budget used to be. A rotten old tree, a ruinous, dirty cottage, and even a dust-heap itself, touched by the rays of an autumnal setting sun, shine like gold; they appear at times to blaze like fire. Thus Mr. Gladstone, with his brilliant genius, used to irradiate his financial statements; but Mr. Hunt has none of his predecessor's power. This all men knew; and therefore those who used to rush down to hear the financial statements in Gladstone's days stopped away, preferring to "read it in the papers." But let us not be mistaken: Mr. Hunt did his work well; Gladstone himself could not have made a financial statement clearer.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.

On Monday evening, as soon as he could, Mr. Disraeli rose to move an address of sympathy, condolence, and congratulation to her Majesty. And now, for a minute, allow the writer of these articles to turn aside from his proper subject to say a word or two about the Royal and gallant youth upon whom the murderous attack alluded to in this address was made. We began to write these articles more than a dozen years ago; at that time the Duke of Edinburgh was a mere boy; since then we have at intervals often seen him—seen him in the lobby of the House, in childish dress; seen him at Aldershot, trotting his pony by the side of his mother's carriage; seen him in his sailor's garb; and, somehow, we had come to look at him with feelings more of kindness than of mere loyalty. And we will venture to say that these feelings have grown in the breasts of all who have, like ourselves, had the opportunity of seeing him. His face is at once so kindly and intelligent, his bearing so simple and manly, that you cannot help liking him. When, then, we saw in the papers that he had been shot at and wounded, we felt a pang as if the life of a friend had been endangered. This, however, by the way. Our readers, we are sure, will sympathise with us in our feelings and forgive the digression. Disraeli did not do his work well. On such set occasions as this he generally fails. He seems to be overcome by the gravity of his position, as he would himself say. He attempts to be grand; he only succeeds in being stilted. On Monday night his speech was formal and cold; and at times he faltered and hesitated. Gladstone's speech was very different. We suspect that Disraeli's was studied, premeditated. Gladstone's, we take it, was unpremeditated, spontaneous. In short, there was the same difference between the two speeches as there is between the two men, and that is a difference *toto cato*. Are there two men in England or the world more different than these two?

UNDER A CLOUD.

The debate on the Irish Church this week has been intensely tame. On Monday, until Horsman rose, almost at the end of the discussion, nothing could have been duller. We have had to endure

many dull debates in the House of Commons; but, certainly, no debate upon a vital question like that which was discussed on Monday night was ever so dull and spiritless until Horsman rose. The House was discussing the propriety of abolishing the Irish Church. If our readers had looked into the House during the first five or six hours they would have thought that the question in debate was the propriety of erasing from the map an Irish road—not, not an *Irish* road; for we venture to say that the discussion of such a question would have been far more spirited than the first half or three quarters of that debate on Monday night. Mr. Horsman's energetic speech drove away for a time the heavy cloud of dulness, as a strong wind disperses a mist; but only whilst he was speaking could this cloud be kept away. When Lord John Manners rose it again closed in, and before he could deliver himself of what he had to say one half the House, wearied and depressed by the heavy atmosphere, had gone home to bed, and to sleep, let us hope.

WORSE AND WORSE.

On Tuesday evening, as we walked down to the House, we hoped, rather than expected, that the debate might, by arrangement, have been held that night, and, if such an arrangement could have been made, we should have had a much more lively debate than took place on Monday. "And why should it not be made?" said we. "The subject is exhausted—was, indeed, all but exhausted before the holidays. The business of the House is sadly in arrear. Why should more time be wasted?" This seemed cogent reasoning; but, as we have said, we hoped, faintly hoped, rather than expected, because we have long suspected that the Ministers court delay—think they see safety in delay. Fabian tactics have always been in favour with the Conservative leader; and, when we come to look at the matter, we may, perhaps, discover that it is the only policy which a leader of a minority can hope will be successful. "Don't be in a hurry. We are in a bad case. Dismissal seems to be inevitable; but we know not what may be in the chapter of accidents not yet revealed. If we cannot ultimately prevent the catastrophe, we can stave it off. These resolutions cannot be made operative without an Act; and the longer we delay the passing of them the less chance there will be of getting an Act passed. At all events, delay must be the policy. No good can come of haste. There may be safety in delay." And so delay became the word. When we entered the House, Colonel Verner, son of old Sir William Verner, both Irish and Orange of the brightest hue, was up—put up, no doubt, by arrangement—to question the Premier as to the closing of the debate that night. He (the Colonel) had heard with dismay that it was to be closed that night. In such case he and others from the north of Ireland would be unable to make known their views. Would the First Lord of the Treasury be pleased to give them encouragement to hope that they should have an opportunity to speak? Groans and laughter very significant followed this question. The First Lord promptly replied in a speech worthy at once of him and the occasion—ingenious, misty, jesuitical, meaning, however, as all saw, that the debate would not close that night; and at once a cloud of dulness came over us, like a London fog—dark, heavy, in which no lights were discernible—and rested upon us for six mortal hours.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Earl RUSSELL intimated that he should not oppose the proposal to refer the Compulsory Church Rates Bill to a Select Committee, provided the inquiry were confined to the details of the measure.

The LORD CHANCELLOR intimated that there were valuable amendments to be made in the new Bankruptcy Bill, and that, before discussing the measure in Committee, it was desirable that these amendments should be printed. The bill was therefore committed *pro forma*, and is to be taken up again when the amendments have been reprinted.

The Earl of MALMESBURY stated, in reply to Lord Lichfield, that the civil authorities had been unable to cope with the collier rioters near Wigan, and that military had been sent to assist in the repression of the disturbances.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE CREtan INSURRECTION.

Mr. MONK introduced the subject of late events in Crete by a long speech, in which he contended that the British Government ought to interpose to prevent the barbarities which were being practised in Crete.

Sir F. GOLDSMID and several other speakers took part in the debate. Among them was

Mr. LAYARD, who defended Turkey, and charged most of the barbarities upon the Cretans.

Lord STANLEY declined to give the papers which had been asked for by Mr. Monk. He expressed his opinion that the stories of atrocities which had been committed were exaggerated. Further, he declined to recognise the right of the Greek Government to interfere in the matter, and explicitly refused to advise Turkey to cede Crete. Ultimately, the motion for papers was withdrawn.

MONDAY, APRIL 27.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE PRINCE ALFRED.

Lord MALMESBURY briefly moved an address of condolence with her Majesty on the recent attempt to assassinate the Duke of Edinburgh.

Earl RUSSELL seconded the motion, which was at once carried.

EDUCATION BILL.

Their Lordships then took up the Education Bill, the second reading of which having been proposed.

The Earl of AIRLIE moved the rejection of the bill, which he believed would be wholly ineffectual in providing for the education of the people in many districts. In the course of the debate the proposed conscience clause and the appointment of a Minister of Education were a good deal criticised.

Lord GRANVILLE, speaking in Earl Russell's name as well as his own, while he did not think the bill in any way met the exigencies of the case, urged that it should not be rejected just now.

In the end the amendment was withdrawn, and the bill was read the second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE ATTACK ON THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.

Mr. DISRAELI (in a crowded House) moved an address of congratulation to her Majesty on the escape of the Duke of Edinburgh from assassination in Australia, and observed that he was sure he but echoed the general feeling of sorrow and indignation which the crime had evoked. He regretted that anything so atrocious could be associated with our country, and he acquitted the Irish people of any sympathy or connection with a crime which their recent loyal and enthusiastic reception of the heir to the throne showed they were incapable of conceiving. The crime was, he feared, to be attributed to the distempered feelings which had been evoked by a civil war and a disorganised state of society in a foreign land.

The motion was seconded in appropriate terms by Mr. GLADSTONE, and agreed to unanimously.

THE SUCCESSES IN ABYSSINIA.

In reply to a question from Mr. Layard, who expressed his admiration at the skill, forethought, and prudence of Sir R. Napier and the gallantry and devotion of the troops under his command,

Mr. DISRAELI said there was no reason to doubt the accuracy of the information forwarded to the Government in reference to the capture of Magdala and the rescue of the prisoners, and that it was the intention of the Government to bring the subject under the notice of the House in a more formal manner on a future day and by command of her Majesty. The right hon. gentleman, having paid a high tribute to the valour of the troops engaged in the expedition, observed that the march on Magdala could only be paralleled by the advance of Cortez into Mexico. We had, he maintained, entered Abyssinia in support of the interests of civilisation and humanity, and we were about to evacuate it in a manner that would prove to the world the purity and sincerity of our intentions.

THE IRISH CHURCH.

The House having gone into Committee on the Established Church in Ireland,

Mr. GLADSTONE presented a petition from the non-subscribing Presbyteries of Antrim (themselves recipients of the *Regium Donum*), praying the House to adopt measures for giving full religious freedom and equality under the voluntary principle.

Mr. WATKIN, who had given notice of an amendment to Mr. Gladstone's resolutions, to the effect that the question of disendowment should be decided upon by the Reformed Parliament, announced his intention to withdraw the proposal, being satisfied with the explicit declaration of his views by the right hon. gentleman at the conclusion of the late great debate.

Mr. GORST having opposed, and Mr. GROSVENOR supported, Mr. Gladstone's resolutions,

Sir F. HEYGATE moved as an amendment to the first resolution (declaring that it was necessary that the Church of Ireland should cease to exist as an Establishment)—"That so long as the union between Great Britain and

Ireland continues to exist it is just and consistent that the principle of the Established Church should be maintained in Ireland, and its endowment on a scale suitable to the wants of the population."

The debate was continued by several hon. members alternately in support and in condemnation of the resolutions.

Sir P. O'BRIEN, as a Roman Catholic, denied emphatically that there was any compact between his co-religionists and the Ritualists for the purpose of "seizing upon the realm of England," as alleged by the Premier.

Mr. ALLEN pointed out that the disestablishment of the Irish Church could not be used as an argument for the disestablishment of the English Church until the circumstances of the latter had become similar to those of the former.

Mr. BENTINCK, in an amusing but discursive speech, which provoked ironical cheers from the Opposition, dwelt chiefly upon what he termed the tergiversation of Mr. Gladstone upon all public questions since he was a member of the Cabinet of the Earl of Aberdeen.

The O'DONOGHUE contended that the settlement of the Church question, though insufficient in itself to remove every cause of dissatisfaction in Ireland, would be regarded in that country as a removal of a great grievance; while, at the same time, it would convince the people of Ireland that Parliament was resolved to deal fairly with the vital interests of that country.

General PEEL was of opinion that the Protestant Church in Ireland had very little to do with the memorable division of April 4. That was a great party move, and in that light was a great success, of which the concocer ought to be proud. The Royal Commission had not yet reported; and the Roman Catholics, whose feelings everyone wished to consult, had openly avowed that they did not want and would not touch any portion of the property of the Church. So long as the union between the two countries existed, he did not see how Parliament could sever the connection between the State and the Church of the State. The right hon. and gallant General also commented, in terms of some severity, upon the rapid conversion of the leaders at both sides to vast and startling changes, the consequences of which it was impossible to predict.

Mr. HORSMAN applied himself chiefly to answering the taunt that the Liberal party while in office had not dealt with the question. That party would have done in power all they now desired to do in Opposition but for the Tories, who resolutely obstructed every attempt at reform in Church and State. Again, it was urged that a moribund Parliament was incompetent to deal with a question of so much gravity; as if the same Parliament which could endow three Churches could not disendow one, and as if the Parliament which could pass two Reform Bills and establish a Roman Catholic University could not disestablish a Church so small that it represented but a fraction of the Irish population. In answer to the argument that the change in the opinions of Mr. Gladstone had been "sudden and surprising" (as alleged by Mr. Secretary Hardy), the right hon. gentleman read various extracts from the Conservative press of 1861 to show that the leader of the Opposition had in that year foreshadowed the great changes which he had lately invited the House to make; that change was not, however, half so startling as household suffrage proposed by Conservative statesmen in order to enable them to keep their places. The plain duty of the House of Commons was to pass the three resolutions by large majorities, and afterwards to forward the bill which would be founded upon them through all its stages. What the Lords might eventually do with it was a matter of more interest to themselves than to the Irish Church; for although a weak citadel might endure a vigorous assault from without, it would be sure to fall if the garrison within was disbanded.

Lord J. MANNERS described the speech of Mr. Horsman as a tissue of misconception and mystification, and denied that the Government were influenced by selfish motives in retaining office after the recent division. He assured the House that if the Church could be benefited by the retirement of the Government from the Treasury Bench, they would not continue to occupy it a single hour. The issue would be left to the new constituencies, and he was persuaded that their verdict would be pronounced unequivocally in favour of maintaining the immemorial connection between Church and State.

Shortly after midnight Colonel BARTTELOT moved that the Chairman report progress.

Mr. GLADSTONE expressed a hope that, as the principle of the first resolution had already been debated for several nights, the House would come to a decision next night.

Mr. DISRAELI said he regarded the first resolution as more important than either of the others, and that as many hon. gentlemen might desire to express their opinions upon it, he could not enter into any engagement for closing the debate in the manner suggested.

Mr. AYRTON reminded the Government that it was in the last degree inconvenient to keep the question pending, especially after the unequivocal majority of the 4th inst.

Mr. WHITBREAD called upon the House not to allow the Government to "spin out" the debate, and thus to obstruct the whole of the public business, unless they had some new arguments to adduce against the proposition under discussion.

TUESDAY, APRIL 28.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE IRISH CHURCH.

The Earl of DERBY called attention to Mr. Gladstone's resolutions on the Irish Church, and especially to the one which requested her Majesty to place at the disposal of Parliament her interest in the temporalities of that branch of the Establishment. Fearing that the first of the resolutions, at all events, would be carried by a large majority, and reminding Earl Russell of the views he had enunciated last year on the Church question, he wished to know from the noble Earl whether he adhered to the opinion he had recently expressed that a Minister who suddenly changed his opinions on an important political question was unworthy the confidence of the country, and whether the supporters of the Gladstone resolutions intended to take steps for obtaining the concurrence of their Lordships and the action of Parliament with respect to them. Having pointed out the similarity of the present state of things to that which existed in 1838, when the famous Appropriation Clause was carried through the House of Commons, Lord Derby expressed a hope that, no matter how factious was the Opposition, the Government would allow nothing to induce them to abandon their duty of completing the work of reform, and insisting that the voice of the new enlarged constituencies should be heard upon this most important question; and that they would give no countenance to a policy which would only introduce religious discord and animosity into Ireland and create a serious and irreconcileable difference between the two Houses of Parliament.

Earl RUSSELL, considering that the House of Commons was on the point of deciding upon the resolutions, regarded the course taken by Lord Derby as most extraordinary. To the charge of apparent inconsistency on his part, he replied, as Mr. Burke once did, that the inconsistency of means was not incompatible with the consistency of the end. One of the chief objects of his political life had been to establish peace and prosperity in Ireland, and he justified his approval of the resolutions, whilst an inquiry was going on which he himself had promoted, by the fact that that inquiry was not of so extended a scope as he had asked for. He hesitated not to say that he still had a preference for endowing the clergy of all persuasions in Ireland; but, finding that this was altogether impracticable, he had no choice but to vary the means in order to preserve the consistency of the end. To the question of Lord Derby, the noble Earl replied that it was not intended to propose Mr. Gladstone's resolutions in their Lordships' House. The better way would be, if they were carried through the Commons, to embody them in a bill, for a bill supported by a large majority of that House and by the sympathy of the great bulk of the people would

institution which, whatever might be its faults, had proved to be a great blessing to a free country.

Mr. C. Buxton and Mr. Pease having spoken in support of the resolution, and Mr. Adderley against it,

Lord ROYSTON, in an amusing speech, which evoked general laughter, made some curious admissions as to the feeling of the Conservative party in reference to the Irish Church. He admitted that the Government was in a "critical and difficult position," and that they "court defeat;" but he thought the more manly course for the Opposition to adopt would be to propose a vote of censure on Ministers, and turn them out. It was, he thought "rubbish" to suppose that if the Irish State Church were abolished the English Church would not soon follow. He held that "endowments were necessary to keep up the wisdom and honesty" of the ministers of the Established Church. He was for levelling up rather than for levelling down, and not for rushing into an abyss the bottom of which they might never reach! The Conservative party were now "beginning to think about the Irish Church;" but it was unreasonable to bury them on so rapidly, and to make them jump at conclusions before they had time to consider the consequences of their act. The Irish Church was a grave anomaly, but that was no reason why it should be done away with altogether.

Mr. BAGWELL, speaking as a sincere Protestant, was prepared to vote for the disestablishment of the Church because he knew, from an intimate acquaintance with Ireland, that she was struggling under the incubus of ascendancy. He regretted that the resolutions before the House were not the preamble of the bill which was to give effect to them.

After the Committee had been addressed by Mr. Vance, Mr. Denman, and Colonel Hogg,

The Marquis of HARTINGTON held that we were bound in honour and in justice to leave no stone unturned to remove any admitted grievance of the Irish people. The abolition of the State Church in Ireland would be a message of peace to the Irish people, and he entreated the party opposite not to withhold it. He asked them to meet their question with the modern weapons of argument, and not to bring from their armoury the mouldy and forgotten bludgeons associated with the hateful cry of "No Popery."

Mr. MOWBRAY, in replying to the noble Marquis, warned the House that the change which it was invited to make in the Constitution would be an infringement on the rights of the Crown and an interference with the House of Lords. He was persuaded that the country would not indorse such a policy, and the Government were prepared to appeal with confidence to the new constituencies to reverse the decision which a majority of the expiring Parliament might be thoughtless enough to sanction.

Mr. Serjeant SULLIVAN met the argument of the right hon. gentleman by reminding the House that changes similar to those which he predicted as so unconstitutional and dangerous had already been effected by the sweeping away of no fewer than ten Irish bishops. He felt persuaded from his knowledge of Ireland that the State Church was at the bottom of all the evils which afflicted that country.

Mr. NEWDEGATE asserted that the proposition for the disestablishment of the Church had been put forward at the instigation of Cardinal Cullen and the Roman Catholic hierarchy of Ireland, and that if it were carried into effect it would be impossible to maintain the union between the two countries.

Mr. WHALLEY defended the vote he gave on April 3, and argued in favour of free trade in religion.

Mr. REARDEN, in expressing his intention to support the resolution, reminded Mr. Disraeli that he had himself declared that the existence of the Irish Church was sufficient to justify a revolution.

The debate was again adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29. HOUSE OF COMMONS.

RAILWAYS, ETC., ACCOUNTS BILL.

Sir W. HUTT moved the second reading of this bill, and explained that its object was to prevent malversation on the part of public companies, and that it proposed to accomplish this by carrying out the provisions of the Clauses Consolidation Act of 1845, and the Companies Act of 1862, with regard to the preparation and exhibition of accounts. It enacted that the chairman and the directors of every company, together with the accountant, should draw up and sign, prior to the public meetings of the shareholders, a full and faithful balance-sheet of the assets and liabilities, and that this balance-sheet, with the accounts from which it was deduced, should be filed with the Registrar of Public Companies. Further, it proposed that a report of the engineer of the company with regard to the condition of the permanent way and the rolling stock should also be made and filed. To prevent any manipulation or cooking of the accounts, it was next provided that they should be all drawn out in accordance with a form to be prescribed by the Board of Trade; and no dividend would be payable until these requirements had been fulfilled. Lastly, the bill enacted that all officers of a company signing and registering documents of a deceptive and fraudulent character should be liable to fine and imprisonment. If these regulations were carried out he anticipated that there would be no more dressing up of accounts to make things pleasant and to suit the interests of companies, and that the public as well as shareholders would derive the great advantage of being able to form a proximately correct estimate of the value of the shares and the state of the affairs of any company. At the same time the companies and the shareholders would be relieved from many of the evils they were now suffering.

Mr. S. CAVE assented, on behalf of the Board of Trade, to the second reading. He observed, however, that all that shareholders could expect at the hands of the Legislature was facilities for ascertaining their exact financial position, leaving them still free as to the manner in which they should exercise their powers over their directors and managers. A bill upon the same subject had been prepared by the Board of Trade, and was now before the House of Lords, and, as some of its provisions were, in his opinion, preferable to those of the measure now under consideration, he suggested that both bills should be referred to the same Select Committee.

COUNTY FINANCE.

The County Financial Boards (No. 2) Bill was moved on the order for second reading by Mr. WYLD, who explained its provisions at some length.

The motion having been seconded by Mr. KENDALL,

Mr. Secretary HARDY objected to the permissive character of the measure, and urged that its tendency would be to establish a conflict of authority. He considered, therefore, that it was desirable, before legislation took place, to have a full inquiry into the subject. Consistently with this view, the right hon. gentleman moved, as an amendment, that a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the conduct of the financial arrangements of the counties of England and Wales, and whether any alterations ought to be made therein, and the persons by whom or the manner in which such arrangements are now conducted.

Mr. H. A. BRUCE concurred in the objection of Mr. Hardy, and pronounced the bill in its present shape impracticable.

Mr. HENLEY supported the reference to a Select Committee; and Mr. W. E. FORSTER counselled Mr. Wyld to assent to inquiry.

The question was, however, forced to a division, which resulted in the second reading being negatived by 154 to 46. The motion for a Select Committee was then agreed to.

THURSDAY, APRIL 30.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

COMPULSORY CHURCH RATES ABOLITION BILL.

Earl RUSSELL, in moving that their Lordships should go into Committee on this bill, said that he did so on the understanding that its principle should not be interfered with. He would not agree to a course which might effectively destroy the bill.

The Earl of MALMESBURY moved that the bill should be referred to a Select Committee, and said that it was apparently the wish on both sides of the House that a comparatively good bill should be made of it. It was with a desire to further this desirable end that he made the motion which he now did.

After some conversation, the motion to refer the bill to a Select Committee was agreed to without a division.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE FENIAN PRISONER BARRETT.

Mr. REARDEN asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether it is his intention to recommend to the Crown the respite of the prisoner Michael Barrett, against whom a verdict of guilty was returned by the jury and sentence of death passed by the Judge on his trial at the Old Bailey on the 27th ult.

Mr. G. HARDY regretted that an hon. member of this House should ask such a question, which he was sure he need not answer.

THE IRISH CHURCH.

The House having gone into Committee,

Sir M. BEACH said he thought there were anomalies existing in the present constitution of the Irish Church, but he would rather overlook those anomalies than disserve the Church in Ireland from the State. He referred to the recent elections as showing that the maintenance of the Church was gaining ground in the country, and he particularly pointed to Cockermouth and Bristol as fully bearing out what he said.

Sir C. O'LOUGHLEN warmly supported the resolution, and submitted that the vote taken the other night had virtually turned the Ministry into the Opposition. Mr. Gladstone's proposition was intended to put an end to that policy of Church domination in Ireland which had admittedly inflicted the most serious evils upon the kingdom generally.

Sir W. HEATHCOTE defended the Church Establishment in Ireland on the ground of general utility.

Mr. W. COWPER viewed the Irish Church Establishment as in effect a wall of separation between the two nations and two races. On the grounds both of policy and expediency he thought that the Church ought to be disestablished and disendowed.

Mr. CAVE disputed the right of that House to deal with this question at a time that should be dedicated to the completion of their measures for

the reform of the representation of the United Kingdom, and before the Commission upon the Irish Church had made its report. He believed that, if that Church were disestablished, the Church of Rome would receive an enormous amount of power, which would be incessantly directed to the overthrow of the Protestant religion throughout the British empire.

Mr. Bazley spoke in favour of the resolutions.

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SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1868.

THE LAW OF BANKRUPTCY.

ARE we or are we not to have the advantage of a reform in our bankruptcy law? This is a question which is doubtless agitating the minds of countless lawyers and traders at the present moment. Considering the urgent nature of the business pending in "another place," Lord Cairns himself we fancy must be trembling for the fate of his protégé, which will be more than usually lucky if it avoid being relegated indefinitely to the limbo of abortive measures. However, whether or no the present bill escape a catastrophe which has overtaken two or three of its immediate predecessors, it may not be altogether unprofitable if we attempt very briefly to show in what respect it differs from them, and what may be considered its chief claims to supersede the existing law on the subject. We may premise, then, that the bill introduced by the present Lord Chancellor is almost identical in substance with that brought in by Sir John Rolt and Mr. Walpole last year; so close, indeed, is the resemblance as to suggest a suspicion that it is merely a reprint of the latter with certain additions; for, in the copy before us, even a printer's error, which seems to have been overlooked by the corrector for the press last year, is repeated with a fidelity worthy of an Eastern copyist.

Casting a comprehensive glance backwards over the period comprised between the year 1542, when, for the first time, the statute book takes official notice of "such persons as do make bankrupt," and 1849, when the combined results of the experience acquired during three hundred years were embodied in the Bankrupt Consolidation Act, our attention is arrested by two prominent facts: in the first place, the undue severity towards the bankrupt displayed by the earlier enactments (indeed, it was not till 1820 that the bankrupt ceased to be treated as a felon); and, secondly, the tendency of more recent legislation to create a system ostensibly for the greater benefit of creditors, but the effect of which has really been to deprive them of more certain and expeditious methods of recouping themselves out of their debtor's estate.

It is notorious that this failure of justice has been caused principally by the enormous expense attendant upon the process of winding up an estate in bankruptcy, which is in many cases out of all proportion to the amount ultimately realised for distribution amongst the creditors themselves. The fact being that an estate is no sooner ordered to be wound up by the Court than it becomes a prey to a host of professional vampires, who, in the guise of solicitors, assignees, messengers, *et hoc genus omne*, contrive to prolong the "proceedings" until, by a peculiar process of absorption, which has caused the Court of Bankruptcy to stink in the nostrils of unfortunate creditors, and to be regarded with a disgust greater even than that which the proverbial dilatoriness of the Court of Chancery formerly excited, they have succeeded in reducing to the merest pittance an estate which with careful husbanding might have sufficed to pay the creditors a respectable dividend. What seems at the present day more than ever requisite to secure to creditors a speedy and inexpensive mode of obtaining liquidation of their debts is the appointment of some responsible and salaried official in various districts throughout the country (following, say, the present county court districts) to whose control the entire management of the bankrupt's estate should be intrusted as soon as the debtor were adjudicated bankrupt by the competent authority (who, for this purpose, might be the County Court Judge), and whose duty it would be to administer it and prevent its being intermeddled with by parties whose interest it is to run up costs and expenses. By some such means as we propose a bankrupt's estate might then be protected from the danger, to which it is now constantly exposed, of falling into the hands of a class of practitioners who, under the plausible pretext of assisting creditors in collecting and realising the estate, or managing the affairs of the debtor, are, in reality, only anxious to promote their own interests at the expense of the estate by subjecting it to the insidious process of reduction above described.

The principal feature which distinguishes the latest scheme for modifying the bankrupt laws is, as explained by Lord Cairns in the House of Lords, the shifting of the onus of proof from the creditors to the bankrupt in those cases where the Court has to decide with reference to the conduct of the latter; and it is proposed that, in future, instead of inclining the scale in favour of the bankrupt by giving him the benefit of the legal maxim, "*Omnia presumuntur rite esse acta*," the Court may apply the negative of that proposition, and require him to furnish the evidence upon which it is to be satisfied—e.g., where he is prosecuted for a misdemeanour constituted by the Act—or of the absence of a fraudulent intent on his part.

Another bold innovation which characterises the bill and exhibits in a striking manner the views of our modern legislators with regard to the treatment of this vexed question, is the provision made for rendering "after-acquired property" of the bankrupt or debtor available for payment of his debts. Under the existing law—as many of our readers are doubtless aware—the limitation imposed upon the liability of the bankrupt's property is that only such real and personal property as he shall purchase, or "which shall descend, be devised, revert, or come to him before he shall have obtained his order of discharge," can be applied in satisfaction of his creditors; but it is now proposed that, whenever, in the case of a bankrupt after he has obtained his order of discharge, or in the case of a debtor who has made an arrangement with his creditors after the completion of certain requisite formalities, it shall appear "to the satisfaction of the Court in London" that after a reasonable allowance for the maintenance of the debtor and his family, and the payment of debts, &c., *not proveable* under the bankruptcy, or *not payable* under the arrangement respectively, the debtor is able to pay any sum towards the discharge of debts, &c., *proveable* under the bankruptcy or *payable* under the arrangement, and *not fully paid* thereunder, then and in such case the Court may require the debtor "to appear and be examined respecting his ability" to pay; and, on satisfactory proof of such ability being given, may order him to pay into Court such a sum as it thinks fit to be applied in the shape of a dividend for the benefit of his creditors. In default of such payment being made, the debtor's estate is to vest in an officer of the Court called the provisional trustee (performing duties analogous to those of the present official assignee), and is to be liable to be sold or otherwise disposed of for the benefit of the creditors "as if the debtor were then actually adjudged bankrupt." Power is reserved, however, to the creditors to release the debtor's property, if they think fit, from this liability, which they may exercise either by passing a resolution to that effect at a special meeting or by qualifying the terms of the arrangement to that extent.

It is somewhat singular that no provision seems to be made for the contingency of the debtor *not appearing* after being thus summoned to be examined. It is true that by a subsequent clause "if the Court is satisfied that the bankrupt is keeping out of the way," it may issue a warrant for his apprehension: but this hardly meets the case of a debtor *not adjudged bankrupt*. How, then, is such an absentee to be dealt with? As far as we have been able to discover, there is no power given to the Court over a debtor who has taken the precaution of making an arrangement with his creditors, instead of being adjudged bankrupt, and who refuses to come and be examined "respecting his ability" to pay.

We regret that we are unable to present our readers with a more complete analysis of the bill, more especially with regard to the constitution of the court and its jurisdiction (which, however, we may take occasion to observe, will remain distributed as at present amongst the court in London and the county district and county courts until the gradual extinction of the county district courts by vacancies in the office of commissioner, which are not to be filled up), and we feel that we have done scarcely more than enable them to guess at the general scope of this important measure; but, while we must urge as an excuse for such an inadequate treatment of the subject the impossibility of entering upon a detailed examination of the various provisions within the limited space allotted to us, we may in some measure, we hope, atone for our shortcomings in this respect by assuring our readers that as regards at least two thirds of the bill it simply incorporates existing enactments with merely nominal modifications.

A REBUKE TO FLATTERERS.—The *Gazette des Etrangers* publishes the following fragment of a letter written by the Empress Eugénie:—"I do not like all this noise that is made respecting my visit to Amiens. In that act there was neither courage nor merit; it was only a simple duty arising from my position, and which I am very well pleased to have fulfilled. Do not, then, speak to me any more of heroism; I have saved no one, and many a poor patient even must have been greatly incommoded by the preparations made in the wards for my reception. Let us reserve grand phrases for great acts—for example, to extol the sublime devotedness of the holy women who are not satisfied with visiting the sick during an hour, but who tend them until health is restored or death arrives."

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—The seventh part of a series of official reports on this subject has lately been issued, wherein are recorded particulars of nineteen accidents that have occurred on British railways during the months of October, November, and December of last year. Fourteen of these are classed as collisions, and five of the whole number were attended by fatal results. Three occurred on the Great Northern, four on the London and North-Western, two on the North-Eastern, Caledonian, and Great Western respectively, and one severally on the Glasgow and South-Western, London and Brighton, Maryport and Carlisle, Midland, North British, and South-Eastern Railways. The last-mentioned happened during a very thick fog on Dec. 26 last, at the entrance to the Cannon-street station, when a passenger-train from the Waterloo station ran into a Greenwich train between the Cannon-street distant signal and the Cannon-street signal-box. From the evidence adduced it appears that neither drivers could see the red lights more than six or seven yards ahead, and, according to the report, "the collision was evidently caused by a mistake having been made in the Cannon-street signal-box." It appears that, between nine and ten o'clock in the morning, no less than twenty-three incoming and twenty-two outgoing trains have to pass over the four lines of way at this point; and Colonel Yolland, the inspector, thinks it remarkable that more mistakes do not happen in giving, receiving, and recording such a number of signals from different telegraphic instruments. The Cannon-street station now accommodates 157 terminal trains daily; the number using it as an intermediate station has lately been increased from 164 to 179 trains daily, while the direct service of trains from Charing-cross not calling at Cannon-street station has been diminished from ninety-nine to fifty-three daily. The inspector states at the conclusion of his report that "every effort is evidently made to provide for the public safety; and I look upon the manner in which such a mass of traffic into and out of Cannon-street station has been worked, under the disadvantages stated in a former report, under which I think the station labours, and the freedom from mishaps, for a period of fifteen or sixteen months, as highly creditable to the men who have worked this traffic."

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.

A MOST profound feeling of disgust and horror has been excited throughout the country by the atrocious attempt made to assassinate his Royal Highness Prince Alfred in New South Wales; and this feeling is rendered all the more intense by the fact that the vile deed was the work of an avowed Fenian and was the result of a conspiracy believed to have been concocted in this country. In the midst of the painful feelings excited by this event, however, there are two matters for congratulation:—First, that the Prince's life has not been sacrificed; and, second, that the would-be assassin has been condemned and has probably by this time suffered the penalty of his detestable crime. From almost every part of the country addresses at once of condolence and of congratulation have been sent to her Majesty; and in the sentiments expressed in these addresses and in those from both Houses of Parliament, everyone—save, perhaps, a few Fenian desperadoes—will heartily concur. We trust that this will be the last of the long catalogue of atrocities to which the Fenian conspiracy has given birth; and that the very enormity of the crimes committed by that confederation will bring about its disruption, by detaching from it those enthusiastic but mistaken persons—for there probably have been some such in it—who fancied that good might be accomplished for Ireland through its instrumentality. Surely the most benighted intellect must perceive that an association of murderers and assassins, who recklessly sacrifice the lives of innocent persons, can only bring obloquy on all connected with them.

The Prince, whose portrait this week graces our pages, and whose life has been so happily spared, is, as every one knows, the second son of her Majesty, and is now upwards of twenty-four years of age, having been born, at Windsor Castle, on Aug. 6, 1844. He was educated at the University of Edinburgh and at Bonn, and was created LL.D. on the occasion of his opening the Museum of Science and Arts in the Scottish capital. He entered the Navy in August, 1858; became Lieutenant in 1863, and Captain in 1866. He served on board the *Entyralus*, 1858-61; the *St. George*, 1861-3; the *Racoon*, 1863-6; and was appointed to the command of the *Galatea* in January, 1867, and proceeded on a voyage to the Australian colonies shortly afterwards—a voyage which he was still prosecuting at the time the attempt on his life was made. The Duke of Edinburgh was elected Master of Trinity House March 16, 1866, and was "introduced" into the Privy Council in May of the same year.

In regard to the Prince's wound, the *Medical Press and Circular* says:—"If the telegraphic information respecting the character of the injury received by his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh can be depended on, the nation has to be thankful that the life of the Prince has been saved by one of the most extraordinary escapes which has ever been recorded in the history of



HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY J. RUSSELL AND SONS, CHICHESTER.)

gunshot wounds. If the ball—which, we are told, entered the back half an inch from the spine, and in a downward direction—had taken the course which in nine hundred and ninety-nine cases out of every thousand it would have taken, it could not have failed to pierce the heart and great vessels, the lung, diaphragm, and intestines, or liver, such an injury to any of these viscera being almost certainly fatal. That it should have traversed a distance of twelve inches and a half on the outside of the ninth rib, and lodged under the skin of the abdomen, without even touching the peritoneum, is all but incredible, and the fact, if true, will add another to the few extraordinary cases in which balls have glanced from their natural direction and taken a totally unexpected course. Cases are on record in which a ball entering the hip came out at the heel, where it entered the temple and, passing over the bones of the head, lodged at the opposite side. Mr. Lawson relates a case in which a grain of shot striking the eye passed from side to side under the conjunctiva; and a case was communicated to the Surgical Society of Ireland, about a year ago, in which a bullet was removed from the heart of a man who received it in the Battle of Salamanca thirty-three years previously."

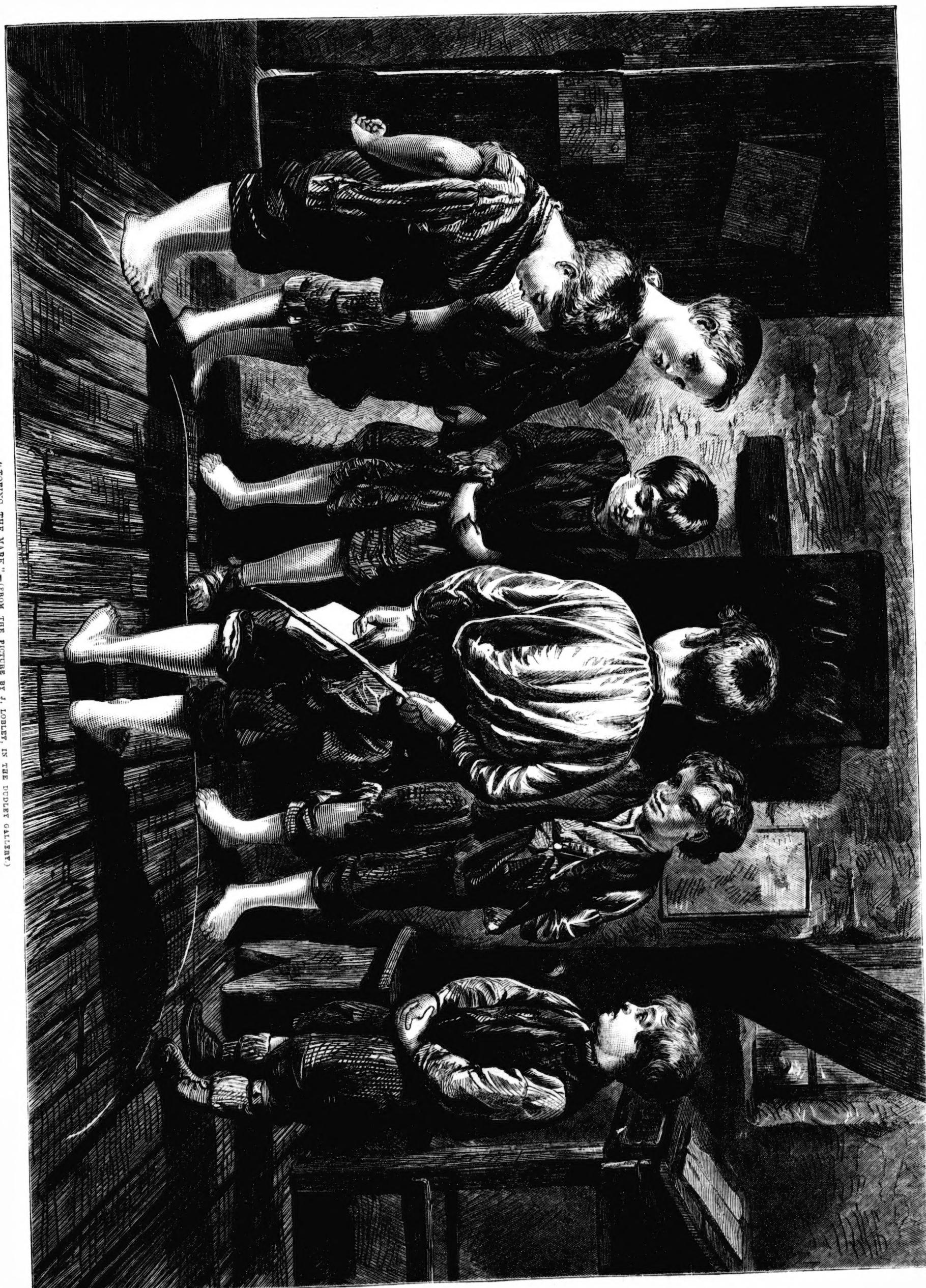
THE ROYAL VISIT TO IRELAND.

The Royal visit to Ireland has terminated without a single incident to mar its success. The Prince and Princess landed amid cheers of welcome, and departed, on Friday week, amid acclamations equally enthusiastic. That indefinable charm of personality which wins hearts is possessed in an eminent degree by our future Queen. From the time of her triumphal entry into London until now the circle of her warm personal adherents and admirers has increased, and at this moment there is no more popular subject in Great Britain than her who is to be one day the joint ruler of all. This winning grace, this invaluable power of attraction, this faculty of enlisting sympathy, as it were, unconsciously, certainly without effort, have had their inevitable effect upon a nation pre-eminent for its warmth of feeling and impulsive, kindly nature, and Princess Alexandra has left Ireland with the hearts of its people in her keeping. The Prince of Wales, too, by his frank urbanity and genial ready enjoyment of the pleasures provided for his gratification, has played naturally the precise role which a skilful diplomatist might have assigned to him. Beneath the recent pomp and show and joyous effervescent loyalty there is, it is idle to conceal, a dormant fire of bitter, deep-seated national sorrows and wrongs. It is the merit of the Prince of Wales that he has performed sufficiently onerous task in unusually critical times in the best manner; and to him, as well as to his consort, the thanks are due from all who invest the late festivities with national usefulness or political meaning.

The installation of his Royal Highness as a



THE ROYAL VISIT TO IRELAND: INAUGURATION OF THE BURKE STATUE IN DUBLIN.



"TOEING THE MARK"—(FROM THE PICTURE BY J. LOBLEY, IN THE DUDLEY GALLERY.)

Knight of St. Patrick, of which we this week publish an Engraving, was sufficiently described in our last Number, and the incidents need not be recapitulated. Of the

INAUGURATION OF THE BURKE STATUE

we now present our readers with an Illustration and a few details of the ceremony.

The changes of scene from day to day in the progress of the Royal visit were sudden and striking. On Monday week it was a brilliant review, in which the finest regiments of the British Army figured; and some little idea was gained by ardent "patriots" of the consequences Fenianism would have entailed had it proceeded, a year ago, just one stage further. On Wednesday, the 22nd, the public gazed not at brilliant cuirasses, gleaming swords, and gaudy trappings—proper accessories of regal display—but at the sombre picture presented by an edifice whose antiquity is only made more manifest by the modern structures raised here and there within its ancient walls—a picture in which the principal feature was a mass of dons and students, in square caps and gowns, occasionally only relieved by the bright tinge of a master's or a doctor's hood. The Fellows of Trinity College did their utmost to make the scene look pleasant; but the ceremony of unveiling the Burke statue would have been flat and depressing were it not for the vigorous shouts of undergraduates, and the joyous demonstrations of the multitude, in large proportion gaily dressed ladies, who, despite the showers which fell, stood up in groups in carriages and on cars, to witness the simple act of inauguration. The conferring of the degree of Doctor of Laws upon the Lord Lieutenant, the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of Cambridge, *honoris causa*, was a dull affair. The people, however, are greatly pleased to have Burke and Goldsmith, twin statues, placed in front of the building facing College green, to which, though rather small for the site, they lend a greater interest. The figure of Burke is in happy contrast with that of the poet. He holds a scroll in his extended hand, the other resting on his side—an attitude which may or may not have been common with the orator, but which gives to the beholder the idea of impassioned pleading. The Royal party had left the castle at two o'clock, and were received with fervour in passing through Dame-street. At the college itself the demonstrations were extremely warm when the carriages entered the courts. Their Royal Highnesses and the Viceregal party were conducted to the Examination Hall by the Vice-Chancellor, Sir J. Napier; the Provost, Dr. Lloyd; and the senior fellows and professors. Having occupied the dais placed at the head of the hall, the Regius Professor of Civil Law (Dr. Webb), in a short Latin speech, announced that the Senate had resolved to confer upon three distinguished candidates the degree of Doctor of Laws; after which the Vice-Chancellor administered the oath successively to the Lord Lieutenant, the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of Cambridge; and the two Proctors, having invested each of them with the robes of Doctor of Laws, conducted him to the degree of LL.D., *honoris causa*. His Excellency and their Royal Highnesses then stepped forward and added their august signatures to the college register. As each degree was conferred the assembly cheered vociferously. When the ceremony had concluded, the Vice-Chancellor briefly declared the *comitia* dissolved, and resigned his place on the dais to the Lord Lieutenant, who, with the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge, then laid aside the robes.

Addressers having been delivered by the Vice-Chancellor on behalf of the University in reference to the Burke statue, and by the Lord Chief Justice on the part of the subscribers, the members of the University present formed a procession, commencing with the Masters of Arts, and terminating with the Duke of Cambridge, the Prince of Wales and the Lord Lieutenant, and, passing out of the Examination Hall, followed by the Royal and Viceregal suites, proceeded to the inclosed platform in front of the college. As some showers of rain fell at this time her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales and the Marchioness of Abercorn remained inside.

In College-green and within the college railings a vast concourse of people awaited the appearance of the Royal party to unveil the statue, and when the procession emerged from the entrance-gate and his Royal Highness took his position on the platform they cheered enthusiastically. When quiet was at last restored, his Royal Highness, speaking in a clear voice, said, "I command this statue to be uncovered." The green-baize cloth instantly fell, and the beautiful work of Mr. Foley was disclosed to the public amidst deafening buzzards. Lord Claud Hamilton then returned to the Examination Hall for the Princess of Wales and the Marchioness of Abercorn, and conducted them to the carriages outside, amidst loud cheers from the large assembly that had remained within the building.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES AT CARNARVON.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, having left Ireland on Friday night week, arrived at Carnarvon on last Saturday afternoon, and were received in great state. A long procession of civic and county dignitaries and volunteers led the way to the old castle of Carnarvon, which had been prepared for the reception of their Royal Highnesses. Here the Prince and Princess were presented with a gold medal, and with addresses in Welsh and in English.

After opening some new waterworks, their Royal Highnesses were present at a luncheon, and the Prince, when his health had been drank, made a short speech, in which he said:—"I can assure you that it has afforded the Princess and myself the greatest pleasure to come to North Wales, and to visit the ancient castle of Carnarvon. It is particularly interesting to us to come on this day, the anniversary of the birthday of the first Prince of Wales. For a very long time it had been our intention to pay a visit to Wales. We have, it is true, been long in fulfilling that intention; but, from the cordial reception which we have received to-day, we shall, I am sure, have great pleasure in looking forward to another visit on some future occasion. We both deeply regret that our stay should be so short, and that, it being necessary for us to go homewards, we cannot remain longer with you. The proceedings of this day have thus been shorter than was at first intended. I thank you once more for the kind manner in which you have heard the few words that I have addressed to you, and for the cordial reception which we have received from the inhabitants of Carnarvon this day." The Prince and Princess then proceeded to Trentham Hall, the seat of the Duke of Sutherland.

*
"TOEING THE MARK."

THIS picture, which forms one of the attractions of the exhibition at the Dudley Gallery, is one of those stories on canvas which appeal at once to the general visitor, since it brings to him a scene with which he is familiar, and conveys a sentiment requiring no very recondite reflections to evoke. It is a scene, moreover, that belongs essentially to the present day, and will not be the less appreciated on that account. That group of little ragged robins, under the control of their monitor, may be doubtfully instructed in the mysteries of the alphabet by means of the letters chalked on the black board; but they are at least learning something of wholesome discipline, none the less salutary because they are volunteers in the cause—recruits in the army of students. Perhaps even learning to "toe the mark" may be the first step in the pathway to great attainments, and is certainly the first step away from many of the evils that haunt these wretched children and drive them ever backward. Very admirable in its drawing is this simple picture, and with such true nature in it as will be sure to make it popular. The very difference in the degrees of raggedness, the variety of poverty, and attitude, and expression, of the boys' faces, with the indication of the one who is not altogether neglected—witness the shoes and stockings which seem to refer to a mother at home whose care has sufficed to keep that young face from the utterly hardening process that comes of street life. All these things make "toeing the mark" interesting to those who pity "homeless boys," and would like to see another "Chichester" on the Thames.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, with their Royal Highnesses Princesses Louisa and Beatrice and Prince Leopold, attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, is expected to leave Osborne about May 8, and return to Windsor Castle, whence, after a stay of about a week, her Majesty will probably proceed to Scotland.

HER MAJESTY, as an earnest of the honours which await the successful exploit of Sir R. Napier, has given orders that the gallant General (who is already a K.C.B.) shall be promoted to the military division of the first class of the Order of the Bath, or a Knight Grand Cross.

THE QUEEN is understood to have signified her intention to confer a baronetcy on the Lord Mayor of Dublin, in acknowledgment of the handsome manner in which he sustained the dignity and hospitality of the city on the occasion of the late Royal visit.

PRINCE ARTHUR will, it is understood, terminate his studies as a cadet at Woolwich at the next Midsummer vacation of the Royal Military Academy. His Royal Highness will subsequently be attached to the Royal Engineer establishment at Chatham for the completion of his studies, and a suite of apartments will be prepared for him and his attendants at the residence of the Captain Superintendent of the dockyard.

EARL RUSSELL has published a second letter to the Right Hon. Chichester Fortescue, M.P., on the state of Ireland, in which his Lordship reviews at length the present state of the question. He arrives at the conclusion that this is the proper time for legislating for the Irish Church; that Ireland, in regard to establishment and endowment, must be left to the voluntary principle; and that the plan of settlement advocated by Mr. Gladstone is to be preferred.

THE MARQUIS OF WESTMINSTER has sent to the Royal Hospital for Incurables at Putney-heath the handsome contribution of £1000. This is the third gift of the same amount made by his Lordship to this institution.

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON has been appointed Lord Lieutenant of Middlesex. The vacancy, it will be recollect, was occasioned by the death of the Marquis of Salisbury.

MRS. LEECH, the widow of the late John Leech, whose name was so long and so intimately associated with *Punch*, died a few days ago, at Kensalgreen.

THE STRENGTH OF THE BRITISH ARMY at home and abroad in 1866 was 201,641 officers and men.

MISS LITTON, now performing at the Princess's Theatre, is not, it seems, a daughter of the Rev. E. A. Litton.

A LOAN of £4,000,000 stock, with lottery prizes, is about to be introduced for the Suez Canal.

GENERAL FLEURY, Grand Equerry to the Emperor of the French, has been in London some days. His journey to England, which takes place annually about the spring season, has for its object the purchase of English horses for the Imperial stables.

THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE CORDEN CLUB will be held in June, probably at Greenwich, and the Right Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P., is expected to preside on the occasion.

REWARDS amounting in all to nearly £2000 are offered for the apprehension of the murderer of Mr. Fetherstonhaugh, of Westmeath. The landed proprietors of the county have contributed a large portion of the sum. Three men, arrested on suspicion, are now in Mullingar Gaol, two of them being tenants on the estate and one a servant-boy of a farmer.

THE REV. JOHN J. WALTERS, of Ide, near Exeter, signs a petition in favour of the disestablishment of the Irish Church as follows:—"John J. Walters, M.A., Vicar of Ide (who signs in the conviction that the death of the Establishment will be the birth of the Irish Protestant Church)."

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE has received the following telegram from the Governor-General of India, dated Calcutta, April 23, 1868:—"Sirdar Mahomed Yakob Khan, son of Amer Shere Ali, has retaken Kandahar and Kheilat-i-Ghilzie."

THE CHAIR OF BIBLICAL CRITICISM in the University of Edinburgh, vacant by the death of the Rev. Dr. Robert Lee, has been conferred on Rev. A. H. Charteris, M.A., Glasgow.

KOSSUTH has resigned his seat in the Hungarian Diet to which he had been elected. His friends wished to have his letter of resignation read to the House; but this proceeding was opposed by the Ministerial party and rejected by a large majority.

THE NIGHTINGALE was heard in the neighbourhood of Southampton on the 23rd ult., and the cuckoo was heard near Bitterne, in Hants, on the 22nd ult.

A NEWSPAPER, called the *Alaska Herald*, has been started in San Francisco. It is partly printed in the English and partly in the Russian language.

THE AGRICULTURAL HALL COMPANY announce their fifth horse show for May 30 and June 1 to 4. The prizes for blood sires are £40 and £20, and about £350 and a £25 gold medal for the best allotted to hunters.

A GRAND NAVAL DISPLAY will, it is rumoured, be made off Cherbourg, in the presence of the Emperor Napoleon, about the 19th inst., and the British Channel fleet, under the command of Rear-Admiral J. Warden, C.B., will be present in Cherbourg Roads to do honour to the occasion.

MR. W. C. LENG, editor of the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, has been presented with his portrait and 600 gs., in recognition of his services in exposing the trade union outrages in Sheffield.

ANOTHER COLONIAL BISHOPRIC has become vacant by the death of Dr. Sawyer, Bishop of Grafton and Armidale, who was drowned by the upsetting of a boat. The Bishop was consecrated only last year, and almost immediately afterwards left for his distant diocese, which comprises a large territory in New South Wales.

THE REV. W. A. WRIGLEY, an Independent minister at Carlisle, recently refused to marry a couple because the gentleman was not a member of his congregation, and because he thought he was not a fit spiritual companion for the lady, who was a member of his congregation.

QUARANTINE has been declared at Marseilles on arrivals from the River Plate, on account of the prevalence of cholera in some South American ports. The same precaution has been taken as regards arrivals from Tunis and some other points of Algeria on account of typhus fever.

A MARRIAGE came to a sudden stop in Providence, U.S., the other day, because the bride made it a condition that the bridegroom should henceforth give up smoking; and the bridegroom declared that he could manage best without a wife.

MR. CYRUS W. FIELD sees no reason why a year should elapse without efficient submarine cables being laid from Suez to Bombay. He says, "It can be done, it ought to be done, and I believe it would yield a good return upon the capital invested."

A PARISIAN DRESSMAKER treated herself to half a dozen oysters the other day. It was a good investment, for in swallowing the last it stuck in her throat. It was recovered, and found to contain a pearl for which a jeweller gave her immediately 75f.

MR. DARBY GRIFFITH will shortly call attention to the manner in which the exercise of the prerogative of the Crown in the granting of titles and dignities has come to be considered to be part of the ordinary patronage of the Prime Minister, and to the extent to which the exercise of that power for political purposes may affect the independence of the House of Commons.

MARSHAL NARVAEZ lost his life through an act of imprudence. He was recovering from a very severe attack of influenza, and still had a distressing cough, when he went to a *fête* given by one of the grandees. The heat in the rooms was suffocating, and the Marshal took an ice, which made him so ill that he had immediately to return home. An inflammation of the chest set in and carried him off with extraordinary rapidity.

SIR ROUNDELL PALMER will shortly move "That this House regrets that a vote for a grant of money to indemnify the late Governor of Victoria for the loss which he sustained by his recall should have been recommended by a message of the Governor to the Legislative Assembly of that colony, with the sanction and approval of her Majesty's Government."

A NEW PRINTING-MACHINE is under trial at the *Times* office, which is expected to transcend anything yet extant. The paper is made in an immense length, and delivered out from a roller. The machine is intended to print 46,000 sheets, or 23,000 perfect copies per hour, which is a greater number than has ever yet been accomplished; and it also cuts the paper into sheets, folds them, and records the number printed.

A SAD ACCIDENT occurred at Chicago on Good Friday. The Roman Catholic Cathedral of St. Mary was filled with worshippers, and the weight of the multitude caused a portion of the floor to give way, which raising a great dust led some one to cry "Fire!" A terrible panic ensued, and in the rush that was made for the doors four women were crushed to death, and twenty or more persons were seriously injured, three of them having died.

MR. JOHNSTON, of Ballykilbeg, left his prison on Monday, and was met at the prison gates and escorted to his house by a procession numbering several thousands of persons, who wore Orange handkerchiefs or sashes. There were groans for Lord Mayo and for the county of Down grand jury. The assemblage was addressed by the Rev. Dr. Drew and Mr. Johnston, the latter demanding the lowering of the franchise and freedom of representation for Ulster. A slight disturbance occurred at the close of the proceedings, but it was almost instantly suppressed by the police.

THE FOLLOWING ADVERTISEMENT appears in one of the local journals of the metropolis:—"A lady of retiring habits, whose husband is dead, wished to dispose of a small but muscular female child six months old. A captain of a ship or an elderly gentleman going abroad would be handsomely negotiated with. The child is fair and of an engaging disposition, and has been well christened in a Protestant church. Satisfactory reasons will be given by the mother, having no further use for it. By letter only."

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THE gain of Cockermouth and Bristol has made the Government jubilant. "There," they say, "see how the country repudiates Gladstone's Irish policy! Cockermouth, which has returned a Liberal ever since the Reform Bill of 1832; and Bristol, which has never sent a Conservative since 1847, have both pronounced against it." And, at first sight, it would seem that these two defeats of the Liberals show that the proposal to abolish the Irish Church is unpopular in the country. But, really, when we come to examine into the causes of these defeats, there is nothing in them at all alarming. At Cockermouth we have long known that when John Steel, who was a resident solicitor there and a native, should die, the Wyndham influence, which is all but omnipotent in that neighbourhood, would close the borough against a Liberal candidate. John Steel himself used to say that he was the last Liberal member for Cockermouth. So much, then, for Cockermouth. It is the voice of Lord Leconfield, and not of the people, which speaks there. The defeat of Mr. Morley at Bristol is quite accountable. The Miles family has overwhelming influence there. They are bankers; and we all know what bankers can do in country towns. Bristol is Liberal, but whenever a Miles has presented himself, though Conservative, he has never been defeated. When I saw that a Miles was in the field I knew that Morley would have a hard fight. But there was another circumstance which contributed to the defeat of Morley. He, if not a teetotaller, is a deadly foe, or thought to be, to the great pot interest. He goes in for closing public-houses on Sunday, and for otherwise circumscribing the operations of the "wittlers"; and, as soon as he appeared upon the field the order went down from headquarters in London that he was to be opposed by all the "wittling" influence. Now, in Bristol there are 600 "wittlers." Think of that, and wonder not that Morley was defeated. The surprise to me is, considering that he had to contend with a Miles and the "wittlers," that he made so gallant a fight. Then we must remember that Morley is a Dissenter; and Coppock used to say that a Dissenter is always a bad card to play. On the whole, there is nothing in these two elections for Disraeli and his colleagues to crow over.

In 1867 the Admiralty, urged thereto by certain exigeant members of Parliament, sent a circular to several shipbuilding firms inviting competitive plans for building a turret or a broadside ship. In answer to this invitation numerous plans were sent in, and notably one by the Millwall Company. Upon this plan the Chief Constructor reports that the total weight which the designer proposes to carry exceeds the displacement by 400 tons—that is, the ship would not carry the weight which the designer proposed to place upon it by 400 tons. This is curious, but the answer sent by the Secretary of the Admiralty to the designer is not less so. After rejecting the plan, he says, "I am commanded, at the same time, to convey to you the thanks of their Lordships for having prepared and submitted a design of so much novelty and merit, and to express their sense of the great skill and ability which it embodies.—I am, &c., HENRY G. LENNOX." This looks very much like irony, but I suppose his Lordship merely copied a stereotyped form.

The Earl of Derby has made the policy of the Government quite clear. If beaten upon Gladstone's resolutions, as they will be, they will not resign nor dissolve, but simply hold on until the new constituents shall have been duly registered and legally constituted, and then appeal to the people. Well, this cannot be done before January or February in 1869. Meanwhile, the Government, in spite of the majority against them, will keep in office, and enjoy the emoluments and dispense the patronage thereof. Of course, the Opposition could, by a vote of want of confidence, turn them out, or compel them to dissolve at once; but it is understood that this will not be done.

Sir Stafford Northcote paid the members of the Indian Council a rather questionable compliment the other night in the House of Commons. He said his advisers "work as hard as any clerks he has ever known in any public office." Really! Well, the gentlemen in question may do that, and more, without oppressing themselves, if one half be true that is said of the way in which the "clerks in the public offices" perform their labours.

When a man, in a quarrel, takes refuge behind a woman's skirts, he confesses himself not only thoroughly beaten, but an unmanly poltroon; and as that is very much what the defenders of the Irish Church Establishment are now doing, they must be conscious not merely of utter defeat, but of intense cowardice. They are sending addresses to the Queen, and trying to drag her Majesty into the contest, in the hope of "saving their own bacon"—that is, of preserving their unearned pay and position to the Episcopal clergy of Ireland. Can anything be more mean, spiritless, and unworthy? Shades of the martyrs of the Reformation, look at the position of those who call themselves your descendants and representatives!

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The dramatist who sets to work to reproduce, in a dramatic form a novel written without any special regard to stage requirements, must always fall foul either of the author or of the public. The component parts that go to make up a good novel are essentially opposed to the requirements of a good play—a novel, with a great diversity of scene, has a better chance (*ceteris paribus*) than a novel in which the action is restricted to certain localities, while a skilful dramatist will exercise all his ingenuity to escape the necessity of a frequent change of scene. If his three acts can take place in the same room, so much the better for his piece; at all events, he must not change his scene during the act, if he hopes to attain high distinction in his art. Again, a group of delicately-shaded characters may make the fortune of the novelist who designs them; while the dramatist must seek rather for coarse, vigorous, and effective contrasts, eschewing delicate distinctions, except perhaps in the case of one character, and trusting much more to the various interpretations which the members of the company for whom he writes may think fit to place upon his creations than upon the intrinsic merit of the creations themselves. And in one matter, above all others, the novelist's chance of success is far above that of the dramatist—I mean in the matter of "small parts." The luxury which the novelist enjoys of embodying small touches of character in personages who exercise insignificant effects on the plot of the story he is telling, is absolutely unknown to the dramatist, who knows that the utility gentlemen, to whom such parts would be intrusted, know of no distinction between the absolutely insignificant and the preposterously absurd. A dramatist, therefore, who undertakes to dramatise a popular novel must necessarily take extraordinary liberties with it, if he wishes the dramatised form to possess the coherence of an intelligible story. He must concentrate the action; he must adapt the principal characters to the resources of the theatre for which he is writing; he must cut out superfluous personages; and he must be prepared to roll three or four inconsistent parts into one. If he does all this, and yet retains the good-will of the author and of the public—why, then he is a master of his craft.

Mr. Palgrave Simpson's duty towards Mr. Edmund Yates's novel "Black Sheep," in preparing his dramatic version of that story for the OLYMPIC, has called into operation all that gentleman's remarkable constructive ability. I take this partly on hearsay (for I have not read the novel) and partly from the internal evidence that the play affords of the handicraft of a master-workman. The novel is presented in three acts, with one scene to each act; the story is perfectly intelligible throughout, and, with one single exception, there is nothing strained in the manner in which the characters are brought

murder of a most dastardly description—but she endeavours, by weaving a complicated chain of circumstantial evidence, to fix the crime on a soft-headed young journalist, towards whom she exhibits every outward sign of the very greatest attachment. The murderer eventually takes poison, just as he is on the point of being arrested; and the murderer falls dead at the same moment. There are only two strong parts in the piece—one, the murderer's wife, admirably played by Mrs. Charles Mathews; the other the street-boy, Jim Swain, admirably played by Mr. Clarke. The murderer—as shall we say—was a murderer as ever was hung—received careful attention from Mr. Charles Mathews, but the part is wholly out of his line. The other characters are a detective, played by Mr. Horace Wigan in the manner of Hawkshaw; the intended victim of the murderer's designs, rather weakly rendered by Mr. Ashley; Philip Deane, the Yankee, who is murdered, played by Mr. Vincent with a strange intonation; and a lady of fashionable exterior but damaged reputation, with whom the murderer is in love, very well played by Mrs. St. Henry. Mrs. Charles Mathews has an exceedingly difficult and laborious task and her performance, especially in the first and second acts, is beyond all praise. Mr. Clarke, as the devoted street boy, is in every respect a finished and most artistic performance. The story is indifferent, and the music dreadful.

FINE ARTS.

GUSTAVE DORE'S PICTURES AT THE GERMAN GALLERY.

The name of Gustave Doré has become so well known among us that a second exhibition of his pictures can scarcely fail to excite a genuine interest. It is true that he is at present more popularly recognised as an illustrator than as a painter; but a visit to the collection of his paintings now on view at the German Gallery will introduce him to the people of this country in a new capacity, especially as the works already made known to us at the Egyptian Hall stimulated public curiosity, and made us eager to learn more of the productions of one of the most remarkable artists of modern times. Of the thirty-one paintings and drawings collected together in the room, it is extremely difficult to speak in such general terms as necessarily belong to a mere notice of their prominent features, since they display such diversity of power and conception that each work demands a separate criticism.

The first feeling of the visitor is one of surprise, the second that of a kind of disappointment, and the third of undisguised wonder and admiration. Surprise at the strange variety of style, subject, and treatment; disappointment at the intentional disregard to finish in some productions when the ability to elaborate is so evident in others; and admiration at the underlying power of suggestion, which is the great characteristic of this artist, and makes him, if we may say so, the illustrator of the mystic, the romantic, and the truthfully grotesque. In looking at the pictures of Doré we become conscious of an interpretation of something in our own imaginations which we had always believed to be incapable of delineation—something dreamy, mysterious, but with a relation both to thought and to external nature, which speaks to us even in his wildest flights of fancy with a sense of reality. The effect of his pictures on our inner consciousness is, perhaps, inexplicable—difficult even to understand, but it is almost instantaneous in its realisation, and this may serve to explain the fascination which they exercise even on minds not accustomed to the technicalities of art-criticism, or, indeed, to the study of works of art by any method admitted by connoisseurs.

Of the works in the German Gallery the largest and the most prominent is the "Triumph of Christianity," but we are far from thinking it the most satisfactory from the ordinary English point of view, not from any defect in the work itself, but from its want of adaptation to our modes of thought. We had almost said that its character was essentially French, but that would scarcely indicate the truth. The real obstacle to its appreciation is the difficulty of personifying the heathen divinities and of making them living beings in relation to modern notions. Jupiter and Juno, Belus and Dagon, Phœbus and Apis, Mercury and Osiris, are regarded only either as actual idols or as mythical notions, and to bring us to regard them as actual beings fleeing from the Divine reality of Christ, and exhibiting all the consternation of tumultuous defeat as they vanish headlong to the shades, requires the combination of two divergent if not opposite ideas. This feeling is at once present to the visitor when his eye rests on that lower group, the centre of which is Jupiter, lightning in hand. There is no sympathy with the thought of these mythologic personages defeated and retreating; and even the Scandinavian deities Odin and Thor, who are on the left of the picture, and are some way associated with living humanity, inasmuch as the old Northmen were held to be direct descendants of the war gods, scarcely enable us to accept the idea. The conception, however, is a fine one, if it could only be reduced to painting; and it is of course sought, in that effigient figure of Christ bearing the cross, and surrounded by saints and angels in the upper part of the picture, to indicate that the old cruel superstitions and gross worship pass away before the brightness of Divine self-sacrifice. It is for this reason, perhaps, that even the destroying angels, Michael and his brethren, are depicted without any strong expression of feature. Both they and Gabriel, Uriel, and the Archangels are alike shining, beautiful forms, with features softly indistinct. The power of expression is reserved for the heathen deities, and some of them are marvellously rendered; while the introduction of grand flecks of colour is admirably effective in the pearly glitter of Dagon's fish-tail and the vivid crimson of the Egyptian Ibis, which hangs poised just above the gloom of the abyss. Turning from this to the drawings on each side of it—"The Vision of Isaiah" and "Jonah at Nineveh"—we see the marvellous power of the artist in working with one tint and the mysterious effects of which he is such a consummate master; but the eye of the visitor is immediately turned to another effort of rich colour, in "Gideon Choosing his Soldiers"—a picture which requires thought, and seems to have been the realisation of a profound study of the scene it is intended to represent.

As a complete contrast to this—and, indeed, this is a gallery so varied in style that it is difficult to believe it can consist of the works of only one man, even though he may have put out all his powers and be above, and yet capable of, the peculiarities of any modern school—"The Knitting-women of Alsace" is a charming study. The bold, self-contained, cogitating face of the old dame; the wistful-eyed, half melancholy, weary, waiting expression of the younger, are finely painted, and lead one instantly to turn round to compare them with the less-finished flesh-textures of some other pictures, where the artist has not descended to finish because he relied on other means for his effect. Perhaps the most startling evidence of his ability is in "The Dancing Lesson." The arm of the mother and the child, and, indeed, the living look of the flesh in both, is exquisite; and yet in the same picture the man's head, which is only accessory, though finely drawn, is comparatively rough and unfinished.

Next to this is the most attractive picture in the collection—a row of monks, with a neophyte in their midst. We will not attempt any description of this picture. The visitor must sit down before it; and, if he have any imagination, the face of each of these monks will tell him a strange story; and that of the neophyte suggest a three-volume novel.

MR. HOLMAN HUNT'S NEW PICTURE.

Mr. Holman Hunt, we believe, is almost the only one of that band of brethren known as the pre-Raphaelites, who some years ago undertook to revolutionise art, that still rigidly adheres to the principles of his school; and in "Isabella, or the Pot of Basil," now on exhibition at Mr. Gambart's Gallery, Mr. Hunt has at once proved his fidelity to his early principles and produced a beautiful picture on a subject which, handled with less skill and delicacy, would have been somewhat painful, if not repulsive and ghastly. The story (first told briefly in prose by Boccaccio, and afterwards amplified in verse by Keats) which Mr. Hunt has selected for a theme is to this effect:—Once upon a time, there lived in the city of Florence a young lady, Isabella by name, who loved, and was

loved by, a young man, the clerk of her brothers, who were "merchant princes" when Florence was a great mercantile city. The brothers disapproved the attachment, as they looked forward to a great alliance for their sister; and, in order to separate the lovers effectually, had the youth decoyed into a wood, and there murdered and buried. These facts, as well as the spot where the body was interred, were revealed to Isabella in a vision, and she forthwith had the body recovered, cut off the head, deposited it in a flower-vase in which she planted basil, and had the treasure placed in her apartment. The poet says:—

And she forgot the stars, the moon, and sun,
And she forgot the blue above the trees,
And she forgot the dells where waters run,
And she forgot the chilly autumn breeze.
She had no knowledge when the day was done,
And the new moon she saw not; but in peace
Hung over her sweet basil evermore,
And moisten'd it with tears unto the core.

In Mr. Hunt's picture the dawn is breaking; and Isabella has risen from her couch in her night attire, has thrown one arm around the urn, leans her cheek against it, and sorrows for her lost love, as one who will not be comforted. There is not in her grief, however, anything weak, or tender, or soft, or yielding. On the contrary, the features are hard, fixed, stern; and in the large, dark, lustrous eyes there is an expression of resentment, mixed with hopeless dejection, which unmistakably indicates that her feelings are more likely to find vent in vehement anger, rage, revenge, than to dissolve in tears or subside into "peace" "for evermore." The beautifully-rounded limbs, half concealed by the light drapery, are splendidly painted, though somewhat too "rosy"—perhaps we should rather say pinky—for the tone of complexion in the face and neck and feet; and the accessories—such as the urn with death's-heads for handles, the inlaid stand, and the cloth embroidered with the 'over's name—are rendered with wonderful minuteness and finish. The face, to our fancy, lacks refinement—spiritualisation; it suggests the idea of a gipsy of nearly middle age rather than that of a youthful and refined lady. The hands, too, are large. But these features, we are told, prove the fidelity of the artist to nature, for they represent characteristics of Florentine ladies. This may be so; but—Well, we suppose Mr. Holman Hunt knows best: the picture was painted in Florence, where he diligently sought for and studied his models. So we will not dispute either his judgment or his truthfulness; but still, Mr. Hunt's Isabella does not realise our conception of Keats's Isabella. But as that may be because our conception is erroneous, we will only say further, as we said at the outset, that the artist has produced a splendid picture out of a not very tempting or attractive subject. The painting, we understand, is now being engraved in line by Mr. Aug. Blanchard.

Literature.

Wayside Thoughts: being a Series of Descriptive Essays on Education. By D'ARCY W. THOMPSON, Author of "Day Dreams of a Schoolmaster," &c. Edinburgh: W. P. Nimmo.

In "Wayside Thoughts" Mr. D'Arcy Thompson treats us to some most admirable essays on the philosophy and practice of education and the teacher's work. A perfect revolutionist on the subject of tuition is Mr. Thompson. He repudiates alike the matter and the manner of the education that now obtains in our educational institutions, especially in grammar-schools, colleges, and universities. Mr. Lowe himself could not be more thorough in his denunciation of the folly, cruelty, and unprofitableness of compelling boys and youths to grind away at Latin and Greek, taught in a most incomprehensible and uninteresting manner, for fourteen or fifteen years of life. And certainly Mr. Thompson renders most excellent reasons for the faith that is in him. He gives his own experiences, as pupil, student, teacher, and professor; and, while exposing the faults of the existing system, he tells us how he would teach all branches of education, and how he does teach the special branch—Greek—to which he is now appointed; and we don't doubt for a moment that, were his system generally introduced, results would be attained that would more than justify the claims he advances on its behalf. His essays contain some of the most interesting and instructive reading we have met with for a long while. We have kept the book beside us for a month or two; and, whenever weary with poring over more or less wishy-washy novels, rather more than less namby-pamby poetry, dry philosophy, and still drier science, have turned to his pages for refreshment and relief, and have never failed to find what we sought. In fact, it is refreshing exceedingly to meet with such vigorous and original thoughts on the all-important subject of education, and that, too, from a professional educationist, who might naturally be expected to drop into the routine way of thinking as well as the routine way of teaching. But Mr. Thompson is no man of routine—he is no dull Conservative, who hates change because it is change, and irrespective of whether or not it may be improvement. Would that there were many men like him presiding in our school-rooms and professorial chairs! We had marked a great many passages for extract—in fact, we should like to quote half the book; but, in turning to them again, we are sorely puzzled to make a selection; they are all so good. We shall therefore take one or two at random. This is how Mr. Thompson describes the present school curriculum:—

For the first four years of public-school life the time of a boy will be devoted chiefly—I might almost say, with a trifling exaggeration, exclusively—to the mastering of his Latin grammar. In other words, he will set upon an abstract study of a logical kind, such as only the minority of mature intellects could ever thoroughly digest, and such as only the minority of this nursery could ever enjoy. For weary years he will be traversing dull, uninteresting pastures of classic ground; stumbling in a twilight of intelligence; groping his way by the bewildering beams of dim, flickering lamp-lights. In his journey over waste and morass he will be accompanied by a guide, who will be clad in an appropriate uniform of mysterious black, the sable livery of primeval Night. He will ever and anon cast for a sign, and there will no sign be given to him, except such as the grim humour of his oracular guide shall vouchsafe to give. He will be told of nouns that are parasyllabic, imparsyllabic, collective, heterogeneous, heteroclitic, and mobile; of pronouns and particles correlative, which branch into interrogatives, demonstratives, relatives, indefinite, and universals, while these last mentioned branch off again into universals relative and indefinite, universals alternative, universals distributive and inclusive, and universals exclusive; he will hear of conjunctions subordinate and co-ordinate; of cases that are objective genitive, or subjective genitive; of verbs with guttural, dental, labial, liquid, and anomalous stems—strange forest trees; of verbs with periphrastic conjugations; of verbs finite, infinite, substantive, transitive, intransitive, active, passive, deponent, quasi-passive, semi-deponent, defective, inceptive, frequentative, desiderative, anomalous, factitive, or *quid-quales*, purely transitive or *cuius*, trajectio-transitive or *cuius*; of verbs with moods indicative, imperative, potential, conjunctive, conditional, concessive, optative, dubitative, hortative, historicio-infinite, and prolate infinitive; of adverbs consecutive, final, causal, temporal, conditional, concessive, comparative; of relations—never heard of in his own home—epithetic, attributively epithetic, adverbially epithetic, complemental, anexe, circumstantive, predicative, protative, receptive, proprieative; of gerundive attractions—to him intractative; of gerundives with attributive constructions—upon which he can put no construction; of asyndetics, complements, congruents, copulas, ellipses, enclitics, enclitics, direct and oblique enunciations, synecopes, syneses, apodesis, and protasis; and concerning all these mysteries he will probably have his information communicated—mercifully, if not necessarily—in an unknown tongue. God help us!

We live in a queer world! At all events, I have been for thirty years a diligent student and teacher of two—boys, and perhaps to me—unknown tongues, and I feel a difficulty now in putting a definite interpretation upon many of the terms above quoted.

You may be possibly under the idea that I am going back to the days of my own schooling, and quoting from manuals nominally in use but virtually superseded. I am quoting entirely from a small elementary manual issued only a year ago, and prepared by an assembly of some ten of the most learned head masters in England with the express view of remedying such deficiencies in elementary education as had been brought to light by a recent Government commission of inquiry. With many terms of the above ludicrous and almost unintelligible jargon I was familiar in my own early days; but a very considerable number of the terms appear to be of recent invention.

It must not be supposed, however, that Professor Thompson is a mere iconoclast—that he only seeks to destroy and not to reconstruct—that while he condemns existing systems he has nothing to

propose in their stead. On the contrary, he throws out some most valuable suggestions, and propounds plans of instruction that are at once rational, useful, and practicable. It would be impossible, however, to do justice to our author's ideas by short, disconnected extracts; so we recommend the reader to go to the work itself—advice he is sure not to repent adopting.

On the subject of Ireland, which bulk so largely in the public view just now, Mr. Thompson says:—

It would be none the worse for her if the members of her three great religious sects would be content to journey severally on their own ways to heaven without throwing stones at their brethren as seen walking upon parallel but seemingly divergent pathways. In plain words, it would be a blessing to Ireland if her children would seek to save their souls in a more common-sense way; would cultivate less the sterile plant of religious acrimony, and unite to cultivate ever more and more the sustaining plants of self-reliance, energy, industry, and national brotherhood. However, so long as absent proprietors draw cruelly and exhaustively upon her resources, so long as the great majority of her journalists and Parliamentary representatives advocate the claims of sectarianism in preference to those of nationality, so long as a favoured alien Church irritates the holiest feelings of seven in ten of the population, so long, in all probability, will the emissaries of chaos impede the pioneers of steady, gradual, constitutional progress, and so long will social and religious dissension prevail among her children, together with a general indifference to things noble, useful, and elevating, and a universal worship of things fortuitous, useless, ephemeral.

In Ireland, in its most prosperous and thriving corner, we shall find that men of ancient birth, extensive means, claiming, rightly or wrongly, the respect due to high mental and religious culture, celebrate year by year, or countenance others in celebrating, the anniversary of what to the whole civilised world appear, if known at all, to have been but petty and insignificant actions, in which one set of Irishmen were victorious some two centuries ago over another set amongst their own countrymen. It is sufficiently barbarous to erect conspicuous pillars in our capitals, to build metal bridges over rivers, to station huge cannon in our market-place or at the extremities of harbours-piers, by way of commemorating victories over a gallant foreigner; but it is unspeakably ungenerous and barbarous, not to say stupidly suicidal, for any one class within a country to be for evermore stirring up the smouldering embers of an old and now meaningless domestic animosity.

Ireland might, if she pleased, be exceptionally well provided with all the requisite machinery for universal instruction. Will she make use of it? I fear not; at least, for a long, long time. Priest and clergyman and minister and layman will be found to warn childhood, boyhood, and youth from the pernicious soul-contaminating influences of mixed secular pot-books, heretical arithmetic, unapostolic trigonometry. And there will be thousands ready to give attentive ears to this honest, well-meant, ridiculous, amiable, and most mischievous drivel.

In all Europe there is not a people of quicker, readier intelligence; but alas! in all Europe there is not a land upon whose bowels feeds so mercilessly the devil of religious discord. One great stumbling-block in the way of fair and vigorous action against all ecclesiastical interference in secular education, in the way of the intellectual regeneration of the land, is the existence of a Protestant establishment in a Catholic country. The truth is, England, after using the Reformation as a crutch to prop up her own political independence, made use of it as a staff to knock a sister on the head.

If, during the next twenty years, a tithe of the jealous care that for centuries has guarded the rights, the privileges, the amusements of property, were expended upon the physical, moral, and mental culture of childhood, boyhood, and youth, we might then be enabled to give a direct and affirmative answer to the question—"Are we, the subjects of her Britannic Majesty, an educated, refined, and civilised people?"

We have much overstepped the limits we had set ourselves for quotation, and must stop; but we hope we have given enough to induce readers to search Mr. Thompson's teeming pages for themselves.

The Decked-Welled Fishing-Boat, and Fisheries and Fish-Market Reform: being Dialogues on these Important Subjects, with Full Information on the Oyster Question. By HENRY DEMPSTER, H.E.I.C.S., &c. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

What became of all the pins, and the dead donkeys? used to be regarded as profound puzzles; but, what becomes of all the fish? is a problem quite as difficult to solve, and certainly much more important. Fish of all sorts are enormously prolific. We are told that the roe of a cod contains 6,878,000 eggs; of a herring, 117,000; of a perch, 155,000; of a salmon, 19,000, and others in like proportions. Now, allowing for a large percentage of nonproductive eggs and for extensive destruction of the young fry, it is clear that the numbers of the inhabitants of our seas and rivers must be immense. Moreover, we are ever and anon hearing of great takes of herrings, mackerel, pilchards, haddock, soles, and so on. And yet fish is comparatively both scarce and dear in our markets. Why is this? The stores of the article available are almost unlimited; the demand is equally so; there is no rent to pay, and no cultivation is needed. And yet this grand harvest is comparatively unexploited; the supply is short, and the price high. The consumption no doubt is great; but it is as nothing to the quantities to be had for the taking. Why, then, are the fish not taken? and why are good food and hungry mouths kept apart? These questions Mr. H. Dempster sets himself to answer in the little volume before us, and much valuable information on the subject does he supply. He proposes several plans for the improvement both of the quantity and the quality of our fish supply; and for the latter purpose his decked-welled boat, of which he gives us a diagram, is not the least important. By means of these boats, Mr. Dempster says, the fishermen would be enabled to bring their "takes" home alive from the deep-sea fishing-grounds. We need not enter upon a description of this boat, the merits of which must be judged of by practical persons acquainted with fishing operations and their requirements. We may say, however, that the idea on which it is constructed seems most ingenious; and we believe a yacht built on this novel principle at Mr. Dempster's own expense, and named The Problem—a model of which may be seen at the South Kensington Museum—was very favourably reported on by a committee of naval officers. Why it has not yet been generally adopted can only be accounted for, we suppose, by the fact that fishermen are a most conservative race of mortals, and prone to continue the practices and methods that their fathers used. But, surely, some energetic and unprejudiced capitalists might be found to work a notion that promises to be exceedingly lucrative. The book also contains an illustration of a new deep-sea trawling apparatus, the invention of the author, which exhibits several improvements on the net in common use. In addition to the above, Mr. Dempster offers many valuable suggestions on oyster culture; the present deterioration of our sea fisheries; the formation of fishing companies; the fish trade generally; and other kindred topics.

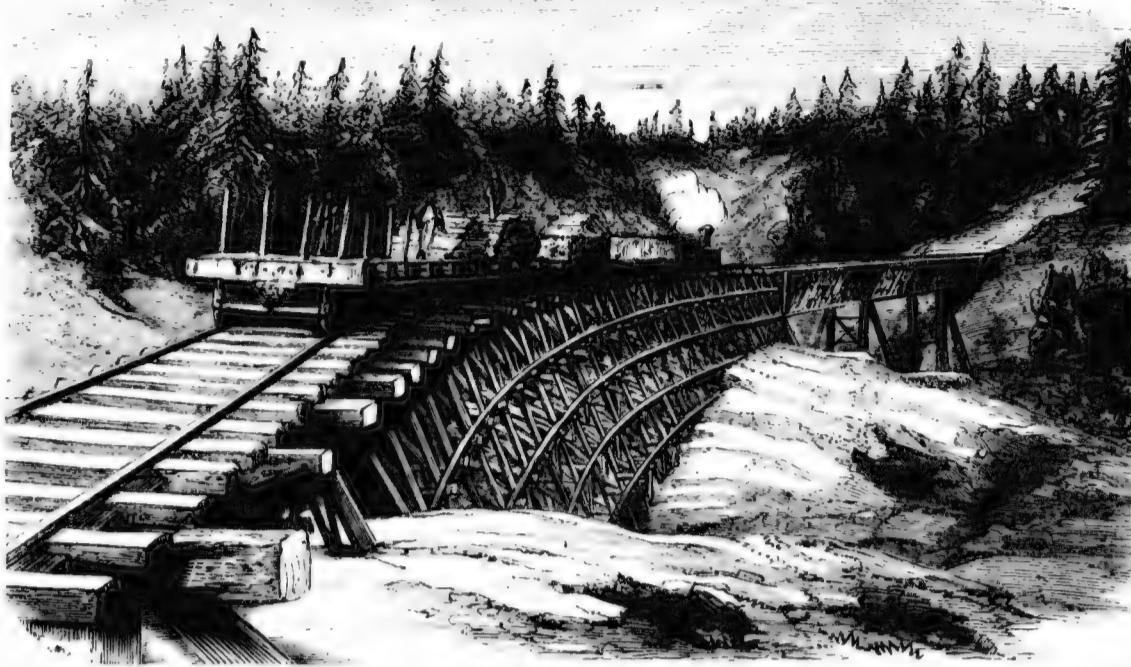
THE ADELPHI CLUB.—A circular, signed by Mr. George Howell, as secretary, has just been issued, wherein is propounded the plan of a new club, designed "for Reformers of different stations in society, whose political opinions, though of an advanced character, differ on various points." The leading object proposed is free and friendly "converse on political, social, and other questions." "The Adelphi Club has been projected for this purpose by members of the Reform League, but for the use, as before mentioned, of Reformers generally, whether members of the league or not." It is proposed "to combine in it the advantages and privileges of West End clubs with an economy adapted to meet the wants and means of working men." The subscription is for the present fixed at 2s. 6d., and the projectors, "in order to carry out our arrangements and give the club a fair start," earnestly solicit donations for furnishing the rooms, and also some books towards forming a library.

PUNCH AND POLITICS.—Our Guildford correspondent writes:—"There exists in the borough of Guildford a species of treating and undue influence which, we believe, unique. Locally, it is known by the name of 'little goes'; with others it passes under the name of 'punch parties.' It is very simple in its operation, and has the merit of not costing much. There are something like thirty licensed public-houses in the borough which are in the interest of the Conservatives, and at one or other of these, at intervals of about three weeks—shortened as election time approaches—these 'punch parties' are held. Usually about seventy or eighty assemble at a time. An attorney or a brewer presides. One or two toasts are given, and the evening is spent in drinking. Ostensibly, the meetings are held to enrol members of the 'Conservative' or 'Constitutional' Association. But everybody knows this to be a farce, these 'little goes' having been in vogue long before the association in question was formed. They usually begin at about nine o'clock in the evening and end about twelve. Punch is supplied *ad libitum*, the landlord drawing a ticket from a box for every bowl he supplies, and being paid in a few days after for every ticket he can produce. At the last of these parties there were eighty people present, and fifty-two bowls of punch were consumed."—*Full Mail Gazette.*

SCENES ON THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD, AMERICA.

SCENES ON THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.

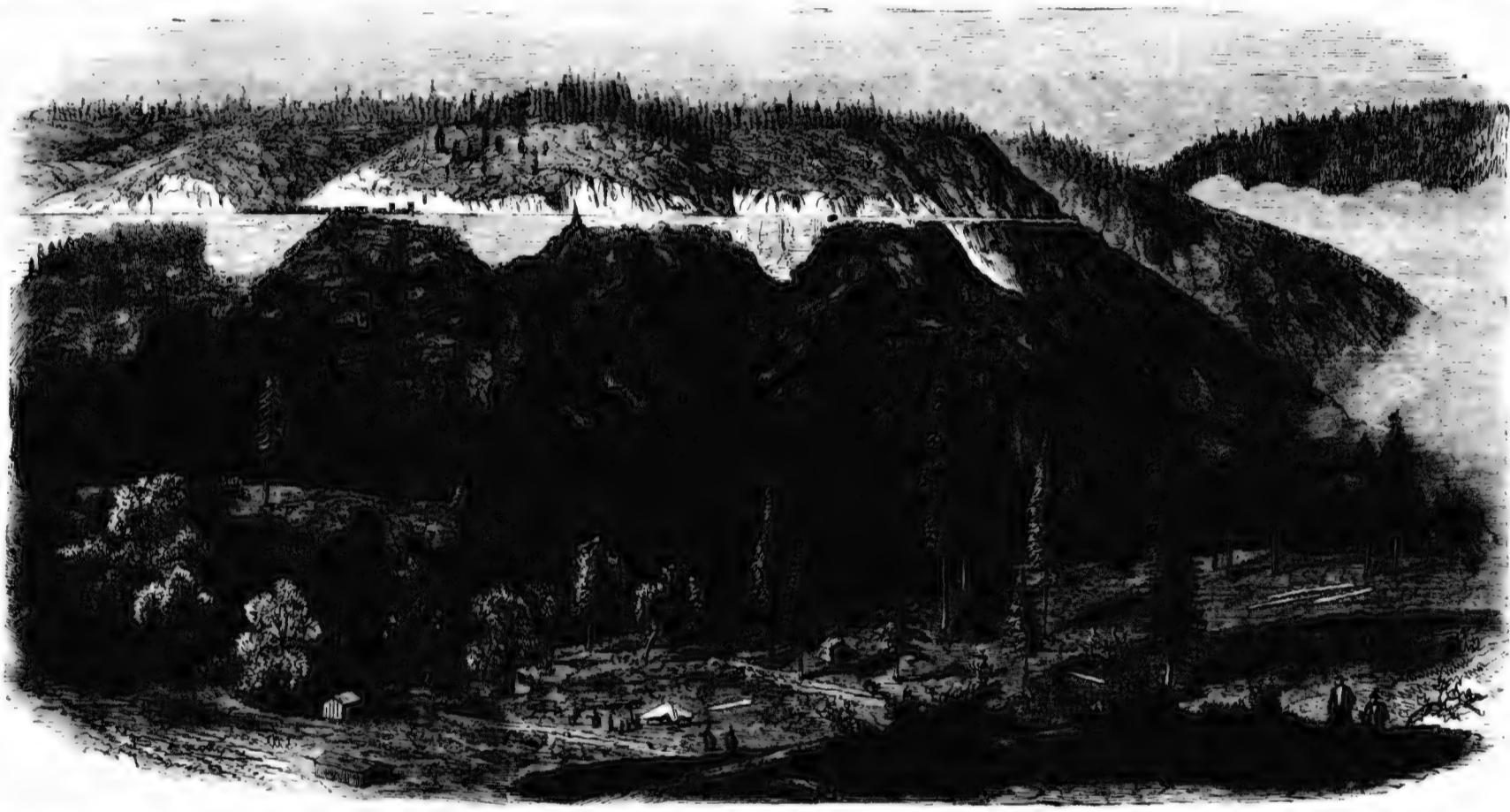
SCARCELY inferior in picturesque solitude to the basaltic peaks are the defiles near Black Butte and Cape Horn, where the slopes are covered with the coniferous giants the size of which is only diminished by comparison with the great mounds and rocky ravines on which they grow. The pointed summits of the precipitous headland of Cape Horn make, indeed, a strange background to the railway, which takes its course, on mere shelf, at a considerable distance beneath their fantastic peaks. It is at this station that the Chinese labourers are so numerous as to arrest the attention of the visitor; and it is the sons of the Celestial Empire who have constructed the graceful-looking huts at the bottom of the ravine, the railway on which they have worked passing 1400 ft. above their humble roofs; its magnificent curve catching the last rays of the sun, after they have left labour for the day, and the trains are flashing round the swell of the great promontory. This ravine is inhabited by a group of men mostly from the same province of China, who live in a queer fashion in complete community, and, now that the line is made, have taken to gold-washing in places where European diggers have employed gunpowder for blasting the quartz; and, although there is now little gold remaining, they patiently seek the yellow grains at the little watercourse which may be seen



VIADUCT OVER THE GREAT RAVINE, NEAR SACRAMENTO CITY.

at the left of our Engraving—grains scarcely larger than coarse sand, which the European and American miners never troubled themselves to look after when the place was worked out. This miserable

extraordinary feats of carpentry ever accomplished. The erection of a great trestle bridge, wherein the trains seem to be almost suspended between heaven and earth, and the very sight



CAPE HORN.

of which, when it is viewed from beneath, as shown in our Illustration, is something actually terrible. There were plenty of materials at hand, however, for this mighty piece of joiner's work. The giant conifers gave up their vast trunks to be sawn into deals and timbers, joists and putlogs; and the work was pushed on with such rapidity that the Great Ravine was made a high road before the wild inhabitants of its wooded slopes can have become accustomed to the sound of saw, hammer, and plane. In this way has the Great Pacific Railway been completed, with an energy which has secured every local advantage, and turned even apparent difficulties into the means of success; so that the traveller who approaches the end of his long journey will have been ungrateful if he has not devoted some part of it in admiring the skill and pluck that has succeeded in whirling him through a country until lately almost trackless to the blue waters of Sacramento

Bay, which is lying there before him, flashing like a mirror, as it is seen between the saddle of the mountains reflecting the azure of the clear sky. A short time and he is in the queer, half-formed,

temporary-looking streets of Sacramento city—streets which, like those of the Sydney of thirty years ago, look as though the inhabitants had not quite determined whether they would stay or not.

Here is the railway station, however, an accomplished fact, with a regular bureau, clock, porters, guards, luggage-vans, and means of transport for horses, goods, and cattle. At present the line runs right into the main street; but that is nothing in Sacramento, or, indeed, in any part of America, for locomotives are playthings in that land, where everything in nature is on such a gigantic scale.

THE FAMINE IN ALGERIA.

ONCE more we have received from Algeria an illustration of the terrible calamity under which that unhappy country is still suffering. In face of the suffering which exists on all sides, the colonists have done their best to distribute food to the starving population; but, up to the present time,



A STREET IN SACRAMENTO

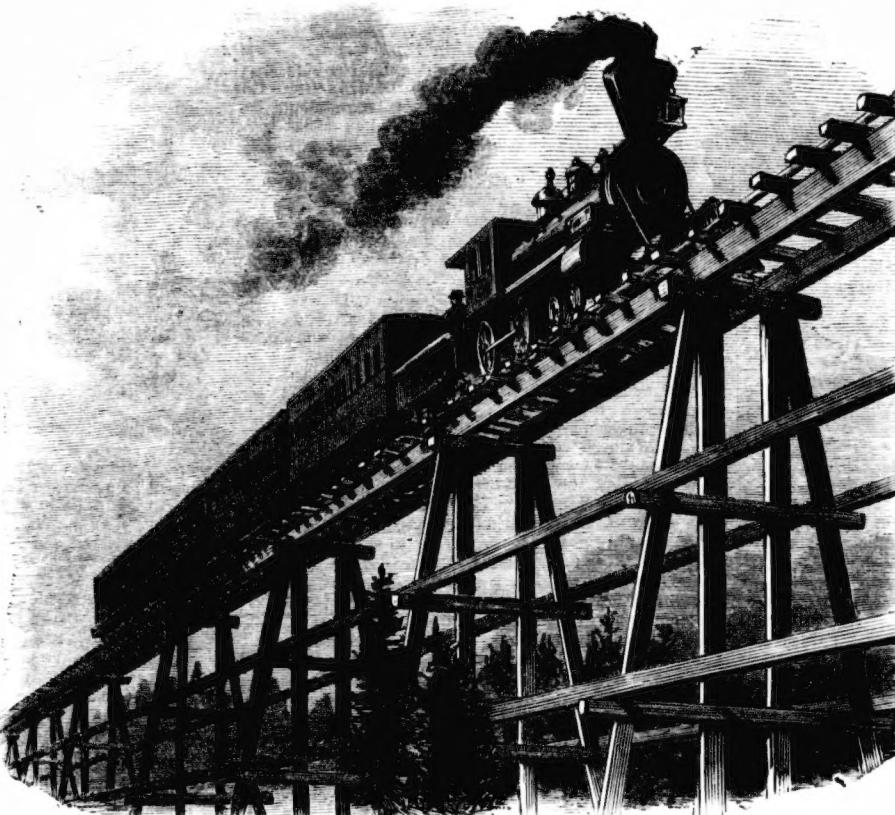
placero is reached by an ably-simple bridge formed of a couple of trunks of trees supporting a few planks, and over this bridge passes a tramway from the gold mine.

Our Illustrations will have been sufficient to give our readers some idea of the extraordinary obstacles which have been overcome in the construction of the great railway from the Atlantic to the Pacific, over a country alternating from almost inaccessible defiles and rugged mountains to great plains, uncleared forest-lands, and abrupt valleys; from extreme heat to the snow-covered heights and the gorges filled with frozen drift. In many cases it was necessary to make enormous cuttings—artificial ravines—by blasting away the rocks, for which purpose the new substance known as nitro-glycerine was used for the first time; but in many instances the great ravines already existing presented almost insuperable difficulties. This was especially the case in that vast valley amidst the rocks distinguished by the name of the Great Ravine, of which we publish an Engraving; and in order to overcome the obstacles presented by this place the utmost skill and courage of the engineers were brought into action. The result has been one of the most

every effort has failed to do more than mitigate the evil. Monseigneur de Las Casas, Bishop of Constantine and Hippo, accompanied by Vicar-General the Abbé Boutte, paid a pastoral visit last month to the village of Tagarin, in order that he might inquire into the needs of the whole district. The farmers were much comforted by his presence and support; and, on the day of his departure, the Commissary-General expressed to him how greatly his coming had tended to lessen the depression of the poor creatures who have been taken to the house of refuge there.

TERRIBLE RAILWAY CATASTROPHE IN AMERICA.

THE New York correspondent of the *Standard* gives the following account of a terrible disaster which lately happened in that country:—The "through passenger-train"—technically known as "Train No. 12"—which left Buffalo for New York, over the Erie Railway, at twenty minutes past two of the afternoon of Tuesday, April 14, was composed of a locomotive, a luggage-car, a "postal-car," and six "passenger-coaches"—three of the latter of the sort known as "sleeping-cars." There were in the train some 200 passengers ticketed for New York. This number was increased by about one hundred at various stations between Buffalo and Narrowsburg. Of these 300 passengers about 120 had "berths," or beds, in the "sleeping-cars." The train was what is known as an "express," though the highest rate of speed permitted by its schedule of running was thirty miles an hour. It had proceeded in safety some 300 miles, and had reached a point on the road known as "Carr's Rock," in Sullivan county, New York. Englishmen who have passed over the Erie Railway will, doubtless, remember this point. The roadway, for a distance of twenty-five miles above Port Jervis, has been cut or scooped out of the side of a range of mountains. Coming from Buffalo, one has, at this stretch, upon the left and far below, the noisy Delaware river; above and beyond it, and parallel with it, runs the Delaware and Lackawanna canal; and far beyond stretch away on each side the black hills of Pennsylvania. To the right is the tremendous bank or cliff formed by the excavation in the rock. The passenger vainly cranes his neck back to get a glimpse of the top of the hills in the side of which the road is cut; the solid rough rock appears to brush the car windows. If one turns to the left and looks down, the glance makes his heart rise to his throat. Far down there runs the Delaware, a narrow ribbon, its brawling quite lost to the ear; the descent is abrupt, almost precipitous; one seems to be flying about in mid-air. Twenty-five feet, or thereabouts, below (at Carr's Rock) is a plateau some 15 ft. broad; then there is a fall of 125 ft. to the river-bed. The sight is enough to appal the stoutest; one almost involuntarily turns his eye to the distant hills in natural search for something substantial, in natural desire to forget the horrible abyss below. It was at this point that the thing I am about to describe was done. Train No. 12 had proceeded in safety to Narrowsburg, but the carelessness of its driver caused a loss in "time"; it was forty-seven minutes "behind time." In the long stretch from Narrowsburg to Port Jervis it seemed possible to regain the loss, and so the train began to spin along the brink of the precipice at the rate of thirty-five miles an hour. (The "sleeping-cars" were filled with drowsy or slumbering passengers, overcrowded, it seems, since many who desired beds had been compelled to take seats in the ordinary coaches.) Faster and faster spun the train. Three o'clock came and went. Fifteen minutes passed on. Then there was a shock. The passengers in the third coach sprang for the bell-rope; the signal to stop the train was given again and again by nervous hands. It was too late. Four cars were off the track and dancing over the ties. The "coupling" links snapped one by one. There was a grinding and crunching; then the last car, with its load of half-awakened men and women, plunged off into the chasm. Down it went, smash! upon the plateau. A leap into the air, and it passed over, tumbling, rolling, end for end, down, down, down, 125 ft. to the foaming rock-strewn Delaware. After it came the other coaches crash, smash, splintering, rolling, tearing down. Then for a moment there was a lull, broken only by the rattle of the wheels of the receding portion of the train. Then there were screams and groans—cries of anguish fit to crack the ear of night. And then a faint, flickering flame, rapidly growing to a roaring con-



A TRESTLE BRIDGE.

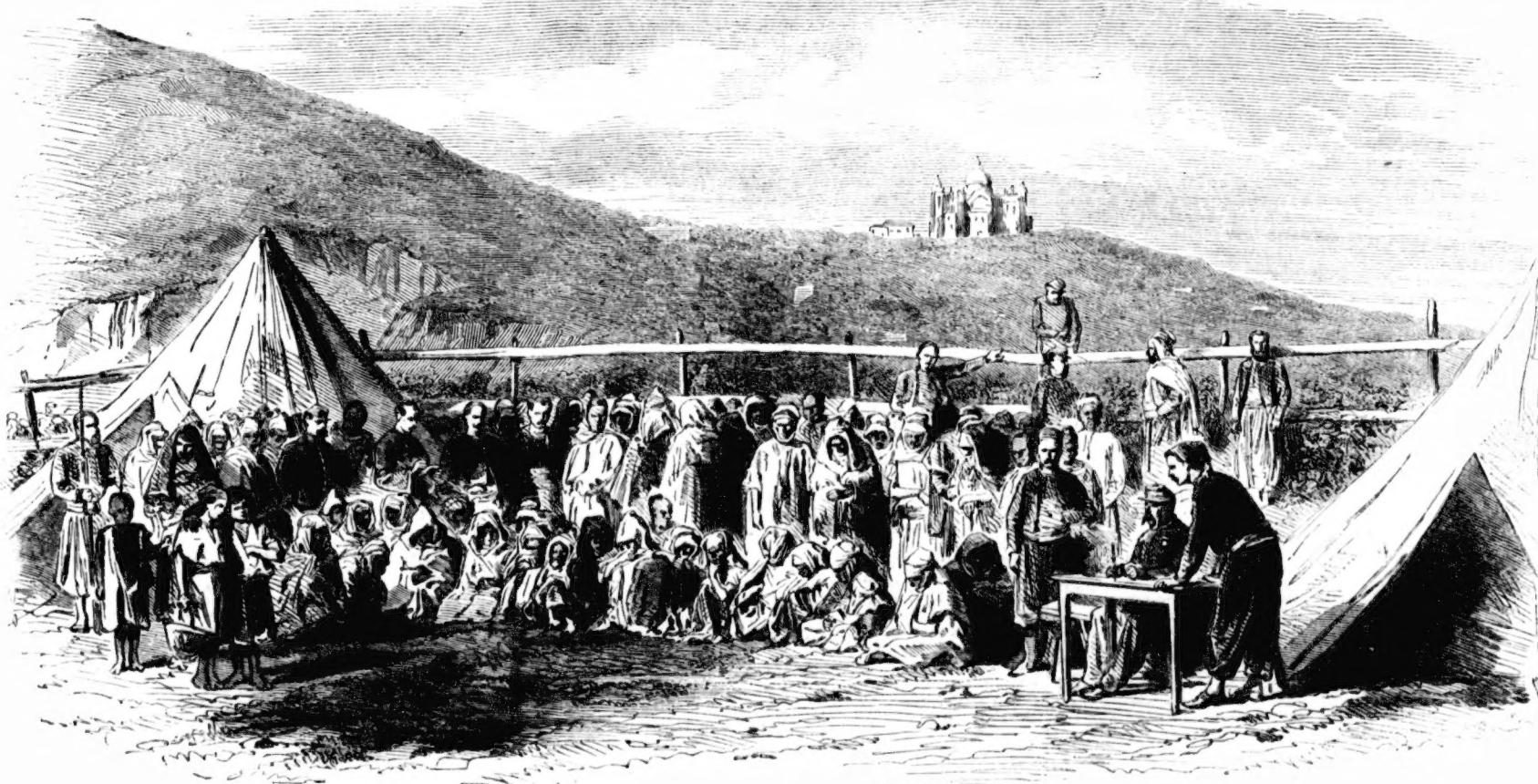
flagration, lighting up the immense void, shining far on the snow-topped hills, illuminating the dark valley; lurid flames reflected for miles upon the dancing waves, upon the rock projections, upon the far-away barns and tenements, upon the near hill-sides. Minutes passed on; the "conductor" of the train "guessed" from the snapping of the bell-rope, that "he had lost some of his cars." The locomotive was stopped, reversed; the uninjured coaches were pushed back to the scene of the accident. Just then the moon rose above the hills, and by her light, and that of the burning coach, the half-stupefied passengers who lined the bank were enabled to see something of the horror beneath. Guided by the flames and by the cries of the wounded, the passengers clambered down the steep bank. The work of rescuing the few living travellers was begun. With such tools as they could get, with stones and fence-rails, with iron braces from the shattered coaches, the passengers tore the wreck apart, and drew out the crushed victims. For hours the rescuers worked, men and women alike, gallantly; some bearing, with vast labour, the wounded, dying, and dead to the plateau and track above; others, wrenching asunder the fragments of the coaches and hauling out the battered bodies of victims. Still, the horrible fire raged on; men and women were burning there, their screams and groans falling upon the ears of people powerless to help. Mingling with the noise rose the wailing of an infant. Search showed that this child was lying in a little brook which ran down the mountain side; in a deep gorge lay the child, and there for two hours it wailed till death came. It was not possible to save it. At last the morning rose. After a brief review of the scene, it was thought that all that could be done then had been done; the dying and dead were put into the unbroken cars, and the fragment of a train proceeded to Port Jervis, sixteen miles away. Five hours after the "accident" the sufferers, and those who no longer suffered, were placed in the station and the hotels at Port Jervis. The telegraph had been put in operation, and surgeons came hurrying in from the neighbouring towns. All the able-bodied women of Port Jervis volunteered as nurses. The dead were placed in a ghoulish row in the station; in a time remarkably brief coffins were produced, and the bodies were washed, shrouded, and boxed up.

When your correspondent arrived at Port Jervis he saw, on first entering the station, seventeen boxes, each containing a victim of the disaster. In the station there was a motley crowd of relatives and friends of the dead—some screaming and sobbing, others weeping in silence or kneeling in half stupor by the boxes. Here and there, within and without the station, men and women were weeping and wringing their hands or wandering crazily about. And now a touching sight. Marshalled by a rough, black-bearded working man, down whose dark face the sympathetic tears ran, came four children, and after them a soft-faced woman, with an infant. All these little ones were, as to their faces and hands, patched and plastered; as to their garments, torn and frayed. They were the children of Ephraim Hoyt and his wife, who had been killed outright, whose bodies lay yonder; the children had been called in to take a last look at father and mother. This family of seven persons were thrown under a car, and there pinned down during two hours and a half. Next to the boxes containing the bodies of Hoyt and his wife was a box containing the body of U. K. Loomis, a noble head crowned with grey locks; a noble, vigorous face, firm even in death, marred only by a dark streak across the forehead. Beyond all these coffins, and in the corner there, were things more horrible—two huge bins, filled with calcined flesh and bones of, at least, six persons, who were burned in the burning car. "At least six," says the station master, "praps more. Don't know." What one saw in those boxes must be guessed. One cannot here describe the thing. It is only necessary to say that the fragments were picked up actually as *disjecta membra*. In that coffin at the left is the boy of Sauss, a French gentleman travelling in this country. At the time of his death he was on his way from Niagara Falls to New York, under protection of the French Consul. He was acting as guardian to a boy named Foye, whom he was taking home to France, where Foye's parents reside. Foye and Sauss occupied one bed, or berth, in a sleeping-car. Though Foye escaped with few injuries, Sauss was horribly mangled. The pencil of Doré could depict nothing more horrible than the facts of this murder. I spoke to a man, an actor, who went over in a car in which seven persons were killed. He

lost consciousness during the roll of 125 ft. When he recovered he was standing bolt upright, and some 20 ft. from the car in which he had been carried down. He was not seriously injured. A strange case was that of one Nelvin. His body was burned crisp, saving a portion of one leg. He was thrown upon his face, and the flame spared the right pocket of his trousers, in which, slightly scorched, was found an "accident insurance" policy for 5000 dollars. The list of victims known is dead, twenty-three; wounded, sixty-nine; missing, four. The missing were either burned in the car or they are wandering, in a state of insanity, about the country in the neighbourhood of the scene of the disaster. There are many men and women at Port Jervis whose friends, waited for by that fatal train, have disappeared.

METROPOLITAN CRIMINAL RETURNS.

ON Monday morning a return was published of the number of persons taken into custody by the metropolitan police during the year 1867. These statistics are enough to dismay the philanthropists, and to open a wide field for speculation as to the best human agencies for the suppression of crime. Within a single year no less than 63,042 persons were taken into custody in the metropolis. Every evil passion seems to have had its gratification; for there were cases representing every kind of offence, from vagrancy to murder and treason-felony. Of the 60,000 or so arrested, 27,450 were discharged by the magistrates; 31,698 were summarily convicted; 3894 were committed for trial; 3009 were convicted and sentenced; 709 were acquitted; and against 176 only were bills ignored or prosecutions not enforced. It is not, of course, surprising that drunkenness should have contributed materially to swell these statistics. The number of arrests for drunkenness and for drunken and disorderly conduct were 16,941, although it is only right to remark that more than half of these cases were dismissed by the magistrates without conviction. For offences against property committed without violence there were 6317 summary convictions and 2246 convictions upon indictments. For offences in which violence was used towards the person there were 182 arrests, but only 66 convictions; and of this number 57 were



THE FAMINE IN ALGIERS: REGISTRATION OF ARAB MENDICANTS AT TAGARIN.

cases of cutting and wounding with intent. Then, for offences which are usually regarded as of a more grossly immoral character, there were 61 arrests, but only 23 convictions. In the foregoing abstract we have, of course, only pointed out the more prominent features of the returns.

Or the persons taken into custody during the year only 61 (all males) are described as having had a superior education. 1635 males and 49 females could read and write well; but the great bulk of the prisoners (54,181) were only able to read or read and write imperfectly; and 7163 could do neither one nor the other. These are facts, surely, which will have their weight in the ever-recurring testimony to the alliance between ignorance and crime.

The total value of the property lost by felonies committed during the year was £81,729, but of this amount property to the value of £18,452 was recovered.

The returns present an extraordinary fact with regard to the number of persons who are missed, and of whom no account is subsequently given. The number reported as lost or missing during the year was no less than 5034, of whom only 2350 were restored.

restored.

Comparing these returns, however, with those of previous years, the facts presented offer some grounds of consolation, small though they may be. The number of persons arrested during the year 1867 was, at any rate, lower than it has been within the last seven and thirty years, with only five exceptions, although the number of convictions do not enable us to make quite so satisfactory a comparison.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

THERE is no work in the vast repertory of the Royal Italian Opera more attractive than M. Gounod's "Faust," which has been represented several times during the last fortnight. The singer now in possession of the part of Margherita is Mdlle. Vanzini, who originally announced for the part of Gilda, in "Rigoletto," made her first appearance as Oscar, in "Un Ballo in Maschera." Of Mdlle. Vanzini's clear, bright voice, and of the graceful, lively style in which she represented the Page in Verdi's Italianised version of "Gustave III.," we have already spoken. As Margherita she had far more difficult work to perform; and, the part being greater, so also was the manifestation of Mdlle. Vanzini's talent. Mdlle. Vanzini's execution of the jewel song was a brilliant specimen of vocalisation; but her most striking performance was in the subsequent duet, which gave her an opportunity of proving that she can be as successful in sentimental as in vivacious music; and that scenes which make the largest demands upon the artist are precisely those in which she produces the greatest effect. When everything else in the operatic version of "Faust" has perished, the garden scene will still remain; and certainly nothing speaks more in favour of Mdlle. Vanzini than the fact that in this all-important scene she produced the most favourable impression. There is a new Siebel, too; this interpolated part being now undertaken by Mdlle. Locotelli, a mezzo-soprano, who had previously been heard as the Queen in "I Puritani." There was no change in the impersonation of the other characters. M. Petit reappeared as Mephistopheles, Signor Cogoni as Valentine,

Several remarkably fine performances of "Rigoletto" have lately been given at Her Majesty's Theatre. The part of the licentious Duke is filled by Signor Fraschini; that of the maliciousester by Mr. Santley; that of the deceitful Maddalena by Mdme. Trebelli-Bettini; and that of the innocent Gilda by Mdlle. Kellogg. A more admirable representation of Verdi's masterpiece could scarcely be arranged. Mr. Santley, from his first appearance in public, acknowledged and applauded as one of our best singers, has now become one of the best actors on the operatic stage; and his Rigoletto, in a purely histrionic point of view, is superior to all other embodiments of that character with the exception only of Signor Ronconi's. Mdme. Trebelli-Bettini's manner of representing Maddalena, and of singing the music given to that not very important personage, is well known and highly estimated. Signor Fraschini's Duke was quite new, as was also Mdlle. Kellogg's Gilda; and nothing could have been more satisfactory than the manner in which both these parts were sustained. There is certainly no Gilda now to be seen so tender, so engaging, so truly pathetic as the Gilda set before us by Mdlle. Kellogg. Her singing of the simple, graceful melody "Caro nome" is admirable, considered only in a vocal point of view. But it is the combination of expressive singing with expressive acting which constitutes the merit of Mdlle. Kellogg's performance; and in the love scene with the disguised Duke, in the series of touching scenes with her father, and in the great quartet of the last act, she was equally perfect. The welcome news is given in Mr. Mapleson's advertisements that on Saturday (to-night) Mdlle. Christine Nilsson will make her first appearance at Her Majesty's Opera. M. Ambroise Thomas's "Hamlet," thanks to Mdlle. Nilsson's representation of the character of Ophelia, had for a long time been drawing large

The last novelty at Her Majesty's Opera has been "Fidelio," of course with Mdlle. Titiens in the part of the heroine, a part in which, we need scarcely observe, she has succeeded.

A soirée musicale, in aid of the funds of the Anglo-German Ophthalmic Hospital, was given at the Royal Architectural Gallery last Tuesday. The principal vocalists were Mdmé. Krüger-Stoker, Mdlle. Tourrier, Herr Carl Stepen, and Mdlle. Auguste Xandrina (who gained considerable applause). The harpist was Herr Carl Oberthür, Mr. C. C. Mathieu performed a solo on the flute, and Mdmé. Leupold (under whose direction the concert took place) presided at the pianoforte. Although the Anglo-German Hospital has been open only five months, about 250 persons have been under treatment with beneficial results. The committee are greatly in need of funds, and those of our charitable readers who lighten their burdens at 15, Old Cavendish-street, will have the pleasure of knowing

A great choral festival, under the direction of Mr. G. W. Martin, will be held at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday next, May 5. The choir will consist of 5000 voices, 3500 of whom are selected from the metropolitan schools, and the remaining 1500 adults selected from the national choral and other musical societies. The programme will be divided into two parts, sacred and secular. In the sacred portion will be found Martin Luther's Hymn, accompanied by Mr. T. Harper with the trumpet; and the solo "Let the bright seraphim," also accompanied by Mr. T. Harper. The secular half of the programme contains the national airs, "Home, Sweet Home" (English), "The Minstrel Boy" (Irish), "Men of Harlech" (Welsh), and "The Campbells are coming" (Scotch). A peculiar effect will be produced in the last-named piece, as the band playing will be heard advancing in the distance. This is the eleventh year Mr. Martin has brought together this large body of choristers. These meetings have tended greatly to foster among the working classes a taste for good music, and have materially contributed to the improvement of the school and church music, besides providing for thousands of children and their friends a means of recreation.

A "BLUE-STOCKING CLUB."—A new society has been established in New York, under the name of the "Blue-Stocking Club," composed exclusively of ladies of literary and artistic tastes and practices. The first meeting was held a few days since. Those set down as permanent members are Mrs D. G. Croly (Jennie June), Mrs. James Parton (Fanny Fern), Mrs. Lucia Gilbert Calhoun, Mrs. Elizabeth Stoddard, Mrs. Anne S. Stephens, Misses Olive Logan, Kate Field, Allen and Phoebe Cary, Amanda M. Douglass, Mrs. Henry Field, Mrs. Mary Clemmer Ames, Mrs. Mary E. Dodge, Mrs. Eliza F. Ames, Mrs. Laura Leclair Phillips, Mrs. Eillet, Miss Mary L. Booth, Miss Dunning (Shirley Dare), Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Miss Susan B. Anthony, Miss Clara Jennings, Mrs. Alfred Bierstadt, Miss Clara Louisa Kellogg, and a score of other artists in words, colours, marble, music, and histriomimic. A number of honorary members out of town are proposed, as Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Mrs. Harriet Prescott Spofford, Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, Mrs. Rebecca Harding Davis, Mrs. Octavia Walton Levert, Miss Abigail Dodge (Gale Hamilton), Miss Augusta J. Evans, and many other ladies. It has been determined that, for the better carrying out of the purpose, the members shall meet once a month, at a lunch at Delmonico's, and shall have such reunions at their own homes as a "blue-stockings" ^{have}.

OBITUARY.

BISHOP HAMPDEN.—We have to record the decease of the Right Rev. Dr. Renn Dickson Hampden, Bishop of Hereford, which took place on the 23rd ult. The deceased prelate was a descendant of the great John Hampden, and was born, at Barbadoes, in 1793. He entered Oriel College, Oxford, in 1810, and in 1813 obtained his degree of B.A., being posted as a double first. In 1814 he obtained the prize for the Latin essay, and in the same year was appointed fellow and tutor of his own college. In 1829 and 1831 he discharged the duties of examiner in classics; and in 1832 he delivered the Hampton lectures, which have been celebrated and fiercely attacked by several writers—especially by Dr. J. H. Newman, who wrote

related, Mr. Pollard was allowed to remain unrewarded and shelved on half pay until 1828, when he was appointed for three years, still a Lieutenant, to the Ordinary at Sheerness. From 1836 to 1853 he served in the Coastguard, and the latter year, as a tardy recognition of his long services both in war and peace, was, as a Lieutenant, appointed to Greenwich Hospital. It is hard to conceive how an officer who stood such a murderous fire on the poop of the Victory at Trafalgar, and who, if the event had happened in these days, would have been thought worthy of the Victoria Cross, or at least rapid advancement till he attained his flag, should have been permitted to pine away in the same rank which he held the year after the action, with the exception of the mere nominal title of "retired commander."

THE IRISH CHURCH.

THE CENSUS RETURNS OF 1861, under the head of ministering to religion, record the number of clergy at 6279—viz., Established Church, 2265; Roman Catholics, 3014; Presbyterians, 677; Methodists, 227; Independents, 35; Baptists, 21; Moravians, 7; Unitarians, 7; Jewish, 1; and clergy of no specified denomination, 25. The 265 clergy of the Established Church were distributed as follows:—Leinster, 882; Munster, 554; Ulster, 648; and Connaught, 181. To every 10,000 of the population the numbers administering to religion were 27 in Leinster, 20 in Munster, 13 in Ulster, 14 in Connaught, and 18 for the whole of Ireland. The number of benefices in Ireland is not returned in 1861. The Registrar-General quotes the number of benefices of the Established Church in Ireland in 1834 at 187. He reports that the benefices in which there was no member of the Established Church at that time were 41; the number in which there was 1 and not more than 20 was 99; 124 benefices had 21 and under 51 members of the Established Church; 161 had 51 and under 101, 224 had 101 and under 201, 286 had 201 and under 501, 210 had 501 and under 1001, 189 had 1001 and under 2001, 61 had 2001 and under 5001, and 12 had more than 5001. The Census Commissioners, in 1834, classified the 1887 benefices of the Established Church according to the number of residents belonging to that Church. The parishes, in 1861, amounted to 2428; but no accurate comparison can be instituted between the statistics of the benefices in 1834 and those of parishes in 1861. In illustration of the difference between the area of the benefice and that of the area of the parish, it may be stated that whereas in 1834 the number of benefices was only 1887, the number of parishes was 2395, not differing materially from the number of parishes in 1861—2428. The Commissioners state that, had they travelled beyond the Census returns, they could not have found the means of making a comparison between the population of benefices in the years 1834 and 1861, inasmuch as the composition and extent of benefices had undergone much greater changes, under various enabling Acts, than had the boundaries of parishes. An approximation of such comparison, however, is obtained by classifying the members of the Established Church in parishes in 1834 and 1861. Although there were 33 more parishes in 1861 than in 1834, the increase is too trifling to affect materially the comparison. Thus in 1834 and 1861 respectively the number of parishes containing no members of the Established Church was 204 and 199; 456 parishes in 1834 and 575 parishes in 1861 contained 1; and not more than 20 members; 382 and 416 parishes in 1834 and 1861 respectively contained more than 20 and not more than 50 members; 307 and 349 parishes respectively had more than 50 but not more than 100 members; 317 and 270 had more than 100 and not more than 500; 315 and 309 had more than 200 but not more than 500; 197 and 141 had more than 500 and not more than 1000; 125 and 106 had more than 1000 and not more than 2000; 76 and 53 had more than 2000 and not more than 5000; 14 and 8 had more than 5000 and not more than 10,000; 2 in 1834 had more than 10,000 and not more than 20,000; 2 in 1861 had more than 20,000, and not more than 30,000. So that it appears that of these seven classes of parishes which in 1834 contained the largest number of members of the Established Church, six had undergone a large reduction, and one had disappeared; while those having more than 20,000, and not more than 30,000, which were unrepresented in 1834, in 1861 were represented by two. In 1861, 199 parishes contained no member of the Established Church, consequently the number of parishes having resident members of the Church was 2229. Of this number the parishes which constituted the largest group were those in which the members of the Established Church did not exceed 20, the number of such parishes being 575, or nearly a fourth of the whole number. The two largest groups next in succession were those parishes which contained no more than 50 and 100 members respectively of the Established Church; and, adding together these three groups, the number of parishes in 1861 in which the members did not exceed 100 will be found to be 1340, or more than one half the entire number of parishes having members of the Established Church.

A CAUTIOUS DOMINIE.—In the recent schools inquiry, a schedule of questions was sent to masters and mistresses of private schools; but it was not always possible to get the schedule filled up, even when verbal information was readily given and an examination of the school allowed. A schoolmaster in the west of England positively declined to commit himself to writing, because "there was no knowing what a long-headed chap like Mr. Gladstone might do with the answers."

A ROYAL CHARITY.—The wives of two Cornish miners, named respectively Mary Dadds and Jane Tremewen, anxious to join their husbands in Nova Scotia but unable to provide the portion of money necessary to secure an emigration grant from the Cornwall Central Relief Committee, wrote to Her Majesty and acquainted her with their poverty and their great desire. Inquiries were at once made as to the accuracy of their statements, the result being that her Majesty, with that kindness of heart which has always characterised her, commanded £10, the sum needed, to be forwarded to the Rev. J. G. Wulf, Rector of Illogan, for the use of the two humble

"PIOUS FRAUD."—A Welsh newspaper gives an account of an interesting experiment in the manufacture of petitions on the Irish Church, made by some of the chief officials of the Establishment, residing in a certain parish of Anglesey. The officials prepared a petition against Mr. Gladstone's resolutions, but none of the parishioners would sign it; it was therefore resolved to subscribe the names of about eighteen respectable men without their assent. This was done, and the petition was sent in to Sir Richard Bulkeley, the member for the county, who, struck with the remarkable similarity in the handwriting of the gentlemen signing, wrote to one of them, and by this means discovered the forgery. Whereupon Sir Richard threatened to prosecute the clerical impostors, and only forgave

TAXATION IN FRANCE.—A little work has just appeared in Paris under the title of "L'Impôt Catéchisme des Contribuables," from which it appears that every Frenchman who is taxed, as the bulk of the male adult population certainly are, to the extent of one ten millionth part of the imposts levied in France for the service of the State, contributes annually 2f. 50c. to the Emperor, 3 sous to the members of the Imperial family, 66c. to the Senate, 48c. to the Corps Législatif (at which rate the making of the laws costs him about 101. annually), 1f. 11c. to the members of the Legion of Honour (1d. a year to allow of some 2000 or 3000 Frenchmen wearing red ribbons in their button-holes), 21c. to the Council of State, 5f. 41c. to the Church, 41f. 95c. to the Army and Navy, and 2f. 55c. for public instruction throughout the whole of France, *etc., etc.*

HOUSE OF COMMONS OFFICES.—These offices now cost a total of £44,354, or an increase of £79 over the estimate for the year 1867-8. The Chairman of Committee of Ways and Means receives a salary of £1500; the department of the Clerk of the House, £24,116 ; that of the Speaker, £12,885 ; and that of the Sergeant-at-Arms, £7803. A sum of £1200 is required for witnesses attending Committees ; of £3000 for shorthand writers, which includes the expense of shorthand writers for the House of Lords ; of £1500 for fees to officers on bills relating to turnpike roads ; of £1150 for fuel and lights ; and of £700 for incidental expenses, which includes £200 for postage. There are forty-nine persons employed in the department of the Clerk of the House, consisting of one clerk, one clerk assistant, one second ditto, four principal, seven senior, twelve assistant, and twelve junior clerks, one accountant, one assistant ditto, one superintendent of copying office, and eight messengers. The department of the Speaker employs twenty persons, of whom the counsel to the Speaker receives a salary of £1800 ; four referees, £1000 each ; the librarian, £1000 ; the deliverer of votes, £500 ; the secretary, £500 ; and the chaplain, £400. There are thirty-two persons in the department of the Sergeant-at-Arms, the Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms receiving £800 ; the Assistant Sergeant, £500 ; the first doorkeeper, £300 ; the second ditto, £250 ; and eleven messengers collectively, £2100. The incidental expenses of this last department are estimated at £6000, £6000, £6000, of which £1000 is required for the delivery

THE FENIAN TRIALS.

THE CLERKENWELL EXPLOSION.

The trial of the prisoners charged with the commission of what is known as the Clerkenwell outrage has ended in the conviction of Barrett and the acquittal of the rest. The result may probably surprise many who have watched the progress of the case. Seldom, indeed, in modern times has any trial been marked by more remarkable incidents; seldom has evidence more conflicting been submitted for the consideration of a jury; and seldom has the current of opinion in respect to the guilt or innocence of at least one of the accused been subjected to such sudden or violent variations. At the conclusion of the case for the Crown the Attorney-General consented to the acquittal of Anne Justice and O'Keefe; and, although the cases against the two Desmonds and English were left to the jury, the Chief Justice pretty plainly intimated that no sufficient evidence had been advanced on the part of the Crown to justify their conviction. True, Timothy Desmond had been arrested close to the House of Detention at the time when the explosion took place, and the evidence given against him, as well as against William Desmond and English, both by Mullany and Vaughan, was extremely cogent if it was credible; but as in accordance with the established practice the testimony of approves must be corroborated by that of independent witnesses, and such was not the case in the present instance, the jury probably exercised a sound discretion in giving the prisoners the benefit of any doubts they may have entertained. The case of the prisoner Barrett was, however, in many respects different, and on it, for a variety of reasons, the public attention was for the most part concentrated.

The evidence against Barrett consisted in the testimony given by Mullany the informer, his apprentice Morris, a woman named Keppel, who worked for him, and some three or four persons who identified him as the man who had either placed the barrel against the wall of the House of Detention, or actually lighted the fuse. But between the accounts given by these different witnesses there were many and important discrepancies, and all those who professed to speak of Barrett as having been present at the scene of the explosion did so on entirely different grounds. For instance, Mullany declared that Barrett had been taken to his house and introduced to him for the first time a fortnight before the explosion; whereas Morris and Keppel said he had come there six weeks previous to that date. Again, the informer described Barrett as having ordinary whiskers and a beard, whereas both Morris and Keppel declared he had long drooping whiskers and no beard. Of the witnesses who spoke to Barrett's presence at the scene of the explosion, one named Allum declared he had seen him cross Corporation-lane from a court immediately opposite where the explosion took place and assist in removing the barrel from a truck which had been wheeled up the lane by one man; whereas Bird, the dairyman, declared that he had seen three men wheel the truck to the place where the barrel was deposited and tilt it out, whilst, at the same time, he saw the man whom he identified as the prisoner Barrett at the extreme end of the lane. Allum, though professing to identify Barrett, also declared that a man named Allen was with Barrett in the court from which he issued, although it was conclusively proved that Allen was in front of the gates of the House of Detention at the time the explosion occurred; and Bird, on the first occasion on which he was examined before Sir Thomas Henry, at Bow-street, declared that William Desmond very much resembled the man who fired the barrel, and, subsequently, on being taken to Millbank, identified O'Neill (the bill against whom was thrown out by the grand jury), and, finally, Barrett, as the person who had lit the fuse. A boy named Moseley also declared that Barrett was the principal culprit, but he had seen him out of a two-pair front window across the lane in the gloom of a December evening, and said he recognised him by the peculiarity of his eyes; and a boy named Wheeler gave similar testimony, but he admitted that he failed to recognise Barrett when first he saw him at Bow-street, and finally did so only when his attention was specially directed to him. Morris (Mullany's apprentice) and the woman Keppel declared that they saw Barrett at Mullany's house on the evening of the explosion, and also that Mullany saw him there; but in this respect they were contradicted by Mullany, who positively affirmed that he saw the prisoner that evening, not at his house, but at a public-house, where he made a confession of his having exploded the barrel of gunpowder with his own hand. Mrs. Mullany, who was declared by both Morris and Keppel to have seen Barrett at her husband's house on the evening of the explosion, was not called by the Crown.

The difficulty which the jury must have felt in dealing with this conflicting testimony was, however, much increased by the defence set up by Barrett. He declared, through his counsel, that not only was he not in London, but not even in England, at the time the explosion occurred. He set up two alibis; and none more apparently conclusive were ever, perhaps, presented for the consideration of a jury. He called three shoemakers from Glasgow, who, having declared that they were entirely unacquainted with him, affirmed that they soled and heeled a pair of boots for him, in his presence, on Dec. 14, in Glasgow, the date being fixed by the circumstance of his sending out for a newspaper and reading to them an account of the Clerkenwell explosion. But, independently of this, he called three other witnesses—one the editor and proprietor of a Glasgow newspaper, the others two tradesmen, one of them twenty years in the service of his employers—who declared that they had seen Barrett continuously for some months down to the date of the explosion, and fixed his presence on the night of the day on which it took place at a meeting in Glasgow convened for the purpose of arranging a demonstration to the memory of the men who were executed at Manchester. The witnesses called for the prisoner gave their evidence with apparent truthfulness, and were certainly in no material points shaken by the cross-examination of the Attorney-General. The Chief Justice, however, in his summing up, manifested a disbelief in the soundness of the alibi, and the jury, after a deliberation of between two and three hours, indorsed his opinion and convicted the prisoner. Barrett, before judgment was passed, reviewed with extraordinary ability the evidence advanced against him, and

protested his innocence. Amongst other matters alleged in his behalf was his presence at Glasgow on Nov. 21, (three weeks before the explosion) at a torchlight procession held there on the occasion of a memorial being presented to the Home Secretary seeking a respite for the Manchester criminals, and his presence there was duly recorded by the Glasgow police. This fact is, however, totally inconsistent with the allegations of Morris and the woman Keppel, that he had been in the habit of going to Mullany's house for six weeks prior to the explosion. It is not improbable that the jury may have based their verdict on the ground that, if the alibis were bona fide, the Home Secretary would be able, by inquiry, to establish that fact, and in that case grant a free pardon, and in the contrary event the conviction would be a sound one. In the presence of the evidence advanced for the defence, and the contradictions in that submitted on the part of the Crown, some inquiry as to whether Barrett was in Glasgow or not at the time of the explosion has become absolutely necessary.—*Morning Post*.

The Desmonds, English, O'Keefe, and Ann Justice have been set at liberty.

BURKE, CASEY, AND SHAW.

At the Central Criminal Court, on Tuesday, Burke, Casey, and Shaw (or Mullady) were put on their trial on a charge of treason-felony. Mr. Ernest Jones claimed on behalf of Burke that he should be tried by a mixed jury, on the ground that he was an American citizen. Ultimately a jury was empanelled to try the question whether Burke was an alien or not, but as the only evidence was passport signed by Mr. Adams, the American Minister, Baron Bramwell directed the jury to bring in a verdict that the prisoner was not an alien. Burke then called upon his counsel to withdraw, on the pretence that the decision which had been come to deprived him of his rights. A consultation with his attorney, however, led him to adopt the wiser course of allowing Mr. Jones to continue his defence. The trial then began. The informers, Corydon, Devanny, and Massey, were among the witnesses examined.

The trial was continued on Wednesday and Thursday; but as the details were fully reported when the case was before the police magistrate the proceedings did not excite much interest.

THE DISCHARGED FENIANS.—On Tuesday evening Little Pulteney-street celebrated the discharge of the Fenian prisoners by getting drunk. Mrs. Ann Justice presided at the celebration, and, with her hair streaming to the wind, stood at a first-floor window, clapping her hands and shouting "Fenian victory" to some 700 or 800 persons assembled in the street below. In the midst of the rejoicings Dennis Lee, a costermonger, yielding to the irresistible influences of the place and the occasion, strolled a pint pot full of coppers, and was given to a policeman and removed from the midst of his friends. Patrick Murphy tried to rescue him, and Mrs. Burns and Mrs. Ryan waved their arms and screamed in humble imitation of the leading fury at the window. They were all four taken before the magistrate; the pot-stealer was committed, the rest were imprisoned or discharged. It was a long time before Pulteney-street was quiet again, and the rejoicings for the Fenian victory were only limited by the inevitable operation of the laws that regulate public-houses. The Fenian victory which Mrs. Justice thought it becoming to celebrate in this way was the acquittal of herself and her companions of the charge of causing the Clerkenwell explosion. It may be as well to have the effects of this explosion plainly stated, so that we may the better judge of the fitness of the celebration. From a summary recently published, we learn that six persons were killed outright by the explosion, six more died from its effects, according to the Coroner's inquest; five, in addition, owe their death's indirectly to this means; one young woman is in a madhouse; forty mothers were prematurely confined, and twenty of their babies died from the effects of the explosion on the women; others of the children are dwarfed and unhealthy. One mother is now a raving maniac; 120 persons were wounded; fifteen are permanently injured, with loss of eyes, arms, legs, &c.; and the amount of damage done to property and person is estimated at £20,000.

THE POLICE AND THE CLERKENWELL OUTRAGE.—It is impossible to read the evidence as to the blowing up of Clerkenwell House of Detention without feeling that, in one sense, the police have been on their trial in connection with this affair as well as the Fenians. From first to last the mismanagement of the police was almost incredible. Not only had they warning beforehand of the intended attempt to rescue Burke, but the barrel of gunpowder was twice wheeled up Corporation-lane—on the day of the explosion and on the day before—was twice set up against the wall of the prison at the very spot where, and at precisely the same hour of the day when, the explosion actually occurred; and was twice ignited, though on the first day the fuse accidentally went out before the flame reached the powder. Moreover, a ball was thrown over the prison wall as a signal, and was picked up by a warden; and Burke fell out of the ring of prisoners as they were being exercised, and retreated to a corner of the yard at the very time when, according to the information given to the police, the attempt to release him was to be made. Yet, either through negligence or stupidity, the police neglected all these warnings, and the wall was blown up without the slightest effort being made to prevent it. Moreover, it must be remembered, that on the day of the explosion the firing of the barrel was not the work of a moment. First, the men who had wheeled the truck tried to light the fuse; and then Barrett, seeing their bungling, crossed the road and applied the match himself, waited to see it take effect, and recrossed the road before the explosion occurred. That there has been a most scandalous *laches* on the part of the police is perfectly clear, and we hope the subject will not escape the attention of the House of Commons. It is well worthy of an inquiry by a Select Committee. An investigation would probably reveal some grave defects in the existing organisation of the police and in the conception entertained at head-quarters of the manner and spirit in which the work of that body should be conducted.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

OBSCENE PIETISM.—The foolish attempt to guard against the alleged immorality of the Church of Rome by the publication of books that can only

tend to undermine the morality of members of every Church will, it is to be hoped, receive a check from certain proceedings that took place on Wednesday in the Court of Queen's Bench. The Recorder of Wolverhampton desired to have the opinion of the Court in a case which turned partly on the character of the book called "The Confessional Unmasked." It appears that some time since Mr. Scott, a zealous member of the Protestant Electoral Union, living at Wolverhampton, bought some thousands of copies of "The Confessional Unmasked" for distribution, at cost price, among his fellow-townsmen, with the object of "maintaining the Protestantism of England, and defeating the deep-laid machinations of the Jesuits." The book in question is, it seems, made up of extracts from the works of theologians who have written on the doctrine and discipline of the Church of Rome, and, in particular, on the practice of auricular confession; and of notes and comments condemnatory of the principles laid down in the text. About one half the extracts are not fit to be read; the rest are purely controversial. Under these circumstances, two justices of Wolverhampton decided that the book came within the meaning of Lord Campbell's Act, and ordered all the remaining copies of it in the possession of Mr. Scott to be destroyed. Mr. Scott appealed at the Wolverhampton Quarter Sessions, and the Recorder quashed the order of the justices on the ground, chiefly, that Mr. Scott's purpose in selling the book was not immoral. The Recorder now wished to have the opinion of the Court of Queen's Bench on his decision. The Judge thought that, as the book was actually impure in character, the purity of Mr. Scott's intention in selling it would not prevent it from coming within the meaning of Lord Campbell's Act, and they decided that the original order of the justices should be confirmed.

THE TENDER MERCIES OF CHURCH CHAMPIONS.

On Wednesday evening the Conservatives of Greenwich called a meeting in the Lecture Hall, professedly in support of the Protestant Church in Ireland. Tickets were distributed amongst their own supporters, and all applicants for tickets were very closely scrutinised. The audience, amidst many signs of impatience, listened for two hours to three speeches, in which a resolution was moved, seconded, and supported, condemning the resolutions of Mr. Gladstone. As the chairman was about to put the resolution, the Rev. B. Davies, a Protestant minister of ten years' standing in the town, went on the platform and asked to be permitted to move an amendment. The chairman refused his permission, stating that, if he did not agree with the object of the meeting, he had no right to be present. On some of the audience insisting on Mr. Davies being heard, the promoters of the meeting kicked him off the platform, tore his coat, struck him on the head, and hustled him out of the building. When the rev. gentleman was thus expelled, a large number of the respectable part of the audience rose *en masse* and left the hall; and, when he made his appearance in the street, minus his hat and with his coat hanging in tatters to his back, they escorted him to his residence with many expressions of esteem and respect.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24.

RANKRUPPTS.—E. H. COGSWELL, Hatfield Broad Oak, builder. M. MASON, Cambridge, contractor.—G. FISHER, Vauxhall, coal merchant.—G. W. BODDA, West Croydon, contractor.—W. C. HADDON, Camberwell, commission agent.—I. A. PEARSE, Pimlico.—J. COHEN, Bermondsey, tobacconist.—R. PHILLIPS, Stepney.—T. TURNER, Ilford, Middlesex, innkeeper.—J. E. TOWERS, Newington, actor.—J. E. TAYLOR, Victoria Park.—W. M. MYLAND, Waltham, waste-paper dealer.—T. SPICER, Ashmore, farmer.—G. PURSER, Leighton Buzzard, plumber.—J. HOWARD, Aylesbury, coal merchant.—W. N. DOREY, Southwark, saddler.—W. ASPINALL, Commercial road, clerk.—A. T. PLATER, Notting-hill, coffee-house keeper.—T. WHITE, Whitechapel, coal merchant.—H. VERE, Notting-hill, builder.—W. H. T. TRUSSARD, Chancery-lane, Middlesex, innkeeper.—L. B. SCHROEDER, Whitechapel, merchant.—J. O. PELLEY, Old Kent-road.—C. KENIGSON, Peacock-trees, Whitechapel, jeweller.—H. LINTON, Holloway, stationer.—C. KOHLER, Plimlico.—T. QUINLAN, Leather-lane, coal-dealer.—J. W. SCOTT, Poplar.—C. BLAKE, New-cross.—S. TOMLINSON, Earl Shilton, licensed victualler.—J. ROWE, Birmingham, farrier.—R. HALE, West Bromwich, labourer.—J. COKE, jun., Selly Oak, farmer.—T. NEWMAN, Old Swanford, mechanic.—J. NICHOLSON, Worcester, brewer.—J. D. COOPER, King's Cross, grocer.—J. B. HARRIS, Gloucester, grocer.—T. D. READ, Ilford, innkeeper.—J. E. TAYLOR, Victoria Park.—W. M. MYLAND, Waltham, waste-paper dealer.—T. SPICER, Ashmore, farmer.—G. PURSER, Leighton Buzzard, plumber.—J. HOWARD, Aylesbury, coal merchant.—W. N. DOREY, Southwark, saddler.—W. ASPINALL, Commercial road, clerk.—A. T. PLATER, Notting-hill, coffee-house keeper.—T. WHITE, Whitechapel, coal merchant.—H. VERE, Notting-hill, builder.—W. H. T. TRUSSARD, Chancery-lane, Middlesex, innkeeper.—L. B. SCHROEDER, Whitechapel, merchant.—J. O. PELLEY, Old Kent-road.—C. KENIGSON, Peacock-trees, Whitechapel, jeweller.—H. LINTON, Holloway, stationer.—C. KOHLER, Plimlico.—T. QUINLAN, Leather-lane, coal-dealer.—J. W. 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